

Hafa Adai!

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Encabo's swimwear found

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The third day of searching for Honorio "Norvin" Encabo, who has been missing since being swept out to sea following a hiking trip last Sunday, yielded part of his swimwear that was found stuck in rocks beneath the ocean.

According to professional diver Harry Blalock, after a dive search he did at the request of Encabo's girlfriend, Marielove Dorig, he found the shredded swimsuit beneath

some rocks and boulders.

Blalock said he and his team left Garapan Fishing Base at around 7am on a private boat provided by Dorig and sailed

See ENCABO on Page 4

AS BUDGET HEARINGS CONTINUE

NI promotion, Iakopo pay raise scrutinized

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla Ia-

kopo was on the hot seat yesterday during the House Ways and Means Committee hearing on the agency's budget proposal for fiscal year 2021, with her pay raise and the money allocated to promote the Northern Islands among the items that draw the eye of some lawmakers.

MVA is looking to receive more than the \$9-million bud-

See IAKOPO on Page 4

AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, July 7, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	301	2	303
Recovered	179	5	184
Active	112	2	114
Deaths	6*	0	6*
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested		15,683	

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	31	0	31
Active	1	0	1
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested		8,217**	

*Total includes a sailor from the USS Theodore Roosevelt.

**Total includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor



UP IN FLAMES

The flame trees lining the highway going to Marpi are now in full bloom, two years since being battered by the hurricane-force winds of Super Typhoon Yutu that stunted their capacity to bloom. This year, tourists or no tourists, the trees appear to be making up for lost time, with a glorious display that is indifferent to whether there is anyone to see them or not.

KRIZEL TUAZON

Contract workers who applied for PUA will be denied—Labor

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The CNMI Department of Labor will automatically deny Pandemic Unemployment Assistance applications submitted by individuals who classify as "contract workers"—a rule that presumably extends

to the Commonwealth's foreign contract workers, referred to as CW-1 workers.

In an interview with Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente, she said that individuals who applied for PUA and classify as "contract workers," their application will be denied

See PUA on Page 4

'Where are the unemployment checks?'

Three months after passage of the CARES Act, workers laid off in the Marianas because of the coronavirus still have not received their unemployment checks—\$945 per week for most. And leaders in the U.S. House of Representatives want to know why.

House Education and La-

bor Committee chair Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (D-VA), Natural Resources Committee chair Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ), and vice chair for Insular Affairs Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) wrote U.S. Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia last week, asking for an explanation for the long

See CHECKS on Page 4

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Pepoy's Restcafe will mark its one-year anniversary with a thanksgiving fellowship today.

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NATION

Hospitals are rapidly approaching capacity across the Sunbelt due to surging coronavirus cases.

PAGE 12



ASIA

At least 50 people have died and a dozen are missing as floodwaters flow hit Japan.

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Local

Schools working together to safely reopen school year

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Educational institutions in the CNMI are currently working together, with help of the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, to implement guidelines to safely accommodate students as the new school year rolls in to minimize risks in schools.

According to task force chair Warren Villagomez, they have ongoing talks with all CNMI educational institutions

including private schools, the Public School System, and Northern Marianas College to come up with safety measures for the opening of campuses CNMI-wide.

"We start early on with the planning. We want to make sure that all parties are engaged, aware and in agreement as we safeguard the students and minimize COVID-19 risk," he said.

Speaking at a press conference last week, Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero, Mt. Carmel

president and representative of private schools, said that it is a challenge to come up with a standardized set of guidelines for all schools while allowing each to customize their plans in accordance with each school's needs.

As part of their standard guidelines, social distancing rules will be strictly enforced and the temperatures of people entering the campuses will be checked, Deleon Guerrero

said. "We are also looking at response procedures if there is a case within our respective schools," he said.

For most private schools, Deleon Guerrero said, they are planning to implement a hybrid learning approach, which is a blend of face-to-face and online learning.

PSS and NMC have shared the same intent.

However, the implementation will depend on the com-

munity vulnerability level: a five-step color guide that the CNMI government uses to indicate the risk level of the CNMI community. It ranges from Red, which is the least safe level, to Green, which is the safest.

"As far as I know, most private schools are pursuing a hybrid approach with more face-to-face interaction targeted toward the younger kids because they need it," Deleon Guerrero said. Online classes will be offered to older chil-

dren because it is easier for them to engage in that kind of learning, he added.

Additionally, Deleon Guerrero said it would also be reasonable for private schools to require their employees to get tested.

Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada said PSS is also working with the task force to ensure that teachers are tested for COVID-19. "We want to be assured that everyone is negative before entering the campus," he said.

NMC campuses begin to reopen to students with appointments

Northern Marianas College is working to gradually reopen its campuses using guidelines that maximize social distancing, require face masks/coverings, and include other measures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

While NMC's summer 2020 semester is entirely online, the college will be providing more details about the upcoming fall 2020 semester in the next few days. To register for NMC's fall 2020 semester, visit www.marianas.edu.

NMC encourages students to contact the college for information about admissions, financial aid, academic ad-

vising, tuition payments and for any other assistance. Virtual meetings and telephone inquiries are also encouraged.

Further, students who have an appointment with any of the offices can now come to campus for their appointments; students who need any special accommodations are asked to include the request when booking the appointment.

When arriving on campus for a pre-scheduled appointment, visitors are to note the following requirements:

- Face masks/coverings are required;
- Social/physical distanc-

ing of 6 feet minimum;

■ Individuals who have flu symptoms or COVID-19 symptoms are asked to refrain from coming to campus;

■ Adhere to posted safety notices throughout the campus.

To make an appointment or reach NMC

Contact the following to make an appointment or if you have any questions:

Office of Admissions and Records

Admissions / Enrollment / Registering for Classes
Email admissions@marianas.edu

marianas.edu or call (670) 237-6768/6771

Financial Aid Office

Financial Aid Options, Financial Aid Questions
Email fao@marianas.edu or call (670) 237-6791/6792

NMC Finance Office

Tuition Payments / Finance Inquiries
Email finance@marianas.edu or by call (670) 237-6821

Program Advisors:

Academic advising, assistance with class selection, academic guidance, etc.

See NMC on Page 4



ALTERNATE CARE SITE

A newly-installed sign now identifies the Kanoa Resort in Susupe as the CHCC Alternate Care Site. This resort is being retrofitted as a care site for COVID-19 cases in the CNMI.

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Man gets 13 years in prison for sex abuse of a girl

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A 24-year-old man accused of sexually abusing a 15-year-old girl pleaded guilty yesterday as part of a plea deal and was slapped with a 13-year prison term.

Peter Fritz Lizama pleaded guilty to sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree and was sentenced to 30 years in prison, with 17 years suspended. This was consistent with the sentence that assistant attorney general Samantha Vickery had recommended.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo ordered Lizama to serve the 13 years in prison without the possibility of parole. He was given credit for time served. After completing his prison term, he will serve an additional 10 years in probation.

Govendo required Lizama to register for the rest of his life as a sex offender and to pay all court costs and fees.

Chief Prosecutor John Bradley said this conviction and sentence goes a long way toward protecting an innocent victim of a terrible crime. "This crime was particularly heinous because of how the

OAG charges Banes with DUI, reckless driving

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General has filed a traffic case charging David George Banes with driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, reckless driving, and accidents.

Chief Prosecutor John Bradley said Monday that Banes will be arraigned this month.

As of press time yesterday, *Saipan Tribune* was still awaiting comments from Banes. When previously asked about the allegations surrounding his arrest, the 58-year-old lawyer said, "Not true at all."

Assistant attorney general Erin Toolan stated in the charging information that, on March 9, 2020, on Saipan, Banes drove while under the influence. He allegedly had a blood alcohol concentration of .08 percent or higher while driving a vehicle "in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property." It said Banes failed to "obey traffic control devices or failed to keep a proper lookout or failed to maintain his lane of traffic

predator came into the victim's home while she was sleeping," Bradley said.

The Office of the Public De-

fender represented Lizama.

Police arrested Lizama in August 2018 after the girl reported that he had awakened

her in her bed at home and sexually assaulted her. The girl said Lizama previously sexually assaulted her several

times. The girl told police that it was the seventh time that Lizama sexually abused her and that the previous incidents

happened in 2015.

Lizama confessed to the crimes when police brought him in for questioning.

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MAZDA

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VAN • 26,733 MILES

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STK:6HS719

2015 HYUNDAI ACCENT
GLS • 55,232 MILES

STARTING AT
\$11,995
STK:5R236

2017 HYUNDAI ACCENT
GLS • 16,979 MILES
STARTING AT **\$11,995**
STK:7HS824

2017 HYUNDAI ACCENT
GLS • 38,753 MILES
STARTING AT **\$11,995**
STK:7R220

2016 KIA SEDONA
VAN • 35,337 MILES
STARTING AT **\$12,995**
STK:6HS793

2017 MAZDA MAZDA3
SPORT • 13,063 MILES
STARTING AT **\$13,995**
STK:7HS813

2015 MAZDA MAZDA3
HATCHBACK • 56,995 MILES
STARTING AT **\$14,995**
STK:5R219

2016 MAZDA MAZDA3
SPORT PLUS • 47,014 MILES
STARTING AT **\$14,995**
STK:20H054-A

2018 MAZDA MAZDA3
9,120 MILES
STARTING AT **\$14,995**
STK:18HS860

2017 HYUNDAI ELANTRA
GL • 24,150 MILES
STARTING AT **\$15,995**
STK:7R207

2018 MAZDA MAZDA3
SPORT • 11,225 MILES
STARTING AT **\$15,995**
STK:8R228

2017 MAZDA MAZDA3
SPORT • 16,012 MILES
STARTING AT **\$16,995**
STK:7R231

2017 HYUNDAI TUCSON
GL2WD • 19,728 MILES
STARTING AT **\$17,995**
STK:7R210

2016 MAZDA MAZDA6
TOURING • 15,535 MILES
STARTING AT **\$18,995**
STK:6R186

2019 MAZDA CX-3
SPORT • 4,550 MILES
STARTING AT **\$17,995**
STK:9P286

2019 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE
CROSS • 5,736 MILES
STARTING AT **\$18,995**
STK:9HS898

2018 MAZDA CX-5
TOURING • 43,175 MILES
STARTING AT **\$18,995**
STK:8R224

2017 MAZDA CX-3
SPORT • 13,201 MILES
STARTING AT **\$18,995**
STK:17C002

2015 HYUNDAI GENESIS
LIMITED • 29,030 MILES
STARTING AT **\$19,995**
STK:8P285-A

2019 MAZDA CX-9
SPORT • 12,289 MILES
STARTING AT **\$24,995**
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See OAG on Next Page

Another webinar on PUA, FPUC programs on Thursday

The CNMI Department of Labor will hold a virtual webinar on Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation this Thursday, July 9, 2020, from 9am to 10am via Zoom and streamed live on the CNMI Office of

the Governor's Facebook page.

Press secretary Kevin Bautista and Saipan Chamber of Commerce executive director Maxine Laszlo will be the meeting's guest moderators.

The virtual webinar will provide another step-by-step guidance on com-

pleting PUA and FPUC applications, as well as answer commonly-asked questions regarding the PUA and FPUC portal and application process.

For those planning to join the Zoom meeting, pre-registration is required. Pre-register at <https://tinyurl.com/CNMIPUAWebinar2>.

com/CNMIPUAWebinar2.

Registration to the Zoom meeting is limited to the first 100 participants that are able to join. Therefore, CNMI DOL will be streaming this virtual conference live on Facebook through the Office of the Governor Facebook Page, and encourage individuals to watch via Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GovernorCNMI/>.

CNMI DOL has upgraded its hiremarianas.com portal, a Virtual One-Stop System used by DOL's Workforce Investment Agency to register, track, and manage its clients, and to incorporate the modules needed for

PUA/FPUC functions. The system is used both regionally and nationally and has advanced security measures with a strong focus on data confidentiality, availability, and integrity.

In the event that you may need alternative means of assistance, are not able to access hiremarianas.com or need more information, you can email info@puamarianas.com or call one of our PUA/FPUC hotline numbers: 670-989-9090, 670-989-9084, 670-989-9081, 670-989-9089, 670-989-9083, 670-989-9080, 670-664-3296, 670-664-3297, or 670-664-3299. **(PR)**

ENCABO

From Page 1

to the "infinity pool" in As Teo where the incident happened. Encabo's suit was recovered at around 9am.

When they got there, Blalock said there was only one small private fishing boat searching the surface and there were no government boats or searchers yet.

"Marielove wanted me to search the cave first, so I did. There was horrible surge in the cave but I did manage to look through it all. Nothing. I then started a circular search pattern, looking underneath all the boulders and rocks in the area, but didn't find anything at all. Toward the end of my search I found a shredded swim suit in about 75 [feet] of water. When I surfaced, there was a boat from [Coastal Resources Management] who had snorkelers in the water. I took the swimsuit over to them and turned it in. When we called Marielove, she positively identified the swim suit as [Encabo's]," he said.

Blalock explained that he received a call last Monday from Dorig ask-

ing him if he could dive to search for Encabo. Dorig told Blalock that she needed his help because Department of Public Safety personnel weren't sending divers down and she wanted a better search.

"I went to the cliffline and met her Monday afternoon. The police boat was in the water, but they were just snorkeling. I asked a couple of policemen on the cliff whether they had divers in the water. They said they were just getting ready to send a couple down. But, as we watched, we could see there were no divers, only snorkelers. I asked the policemen again if they were going to send divers; they said it didn't look like it. I asked them if I could come along on their boat [on Tuesday] to at least do an underwater search. They said they had to check with the commissioner. [I was later told] I would not be allowed on the boat. They said to leave the search to the professionals," he said.

After uncovering the swimsuit and realizing there wasn't much point in continuing the search, Blalock and his team got ready to head back and that's when they met with a bigger boat from Division Fish & Wildlife

carrying men but none of them appeared to be divers.

"I told them what I found and then we headed back, still no sign of the police boat or any divers," he said.

DPS spokesperson Dre Pangelinan confirmed that it was only at around 4:29pm yesterday that DPS and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services sent scuba divers to search near the entrance of the "infinity pool."

According to a press statement from DPS, the search teams on the water yesterday included the U.S. Coast Guard *Sequoia* vessel with their smaller vessel, DFW, Coastal Resource Management, Commonwealth Ports Authority, DPS, and a personal vessel owned by a local fisherman.

At about 9am, DPS said a volunteer diver (Blalock) spotted and retrieved pieces of clothing and footwear from the entrance of the pool.

The statement added that DPS and DFEMS had multiple swimmers conducting a search on the water surface throughout the day, as other DPS and DFEMS divers did a search underwater throughout the area neighboring the "infinity pool."

IAKOPO

From Page 1

get that they have asked for in fiscal year 2021, with the Department of Finance to remit \$4.7 million, and the Executive Branch in support of a \$13.4-million budget to be available to the agency.

Finance Secretary David Atalig also said that MVA expects to receive 80% of the \$5.9-million projected revenue from the hotel occupancy tax, which amounts to \$4.7 million.

On top of this, the CNMI government owes MVA \$8.7 million, Atalig said, \$5.7 million of which is from fiscal year 2019 when the government had a revenue shortfall after Super Typhoon Yutu, plus \$3 million that is owed the agency this year.

However, MVA's furlough of about 80% of their staff got the attention of

lawmakers, given the Department of Finance's recent transfer of \$59,000 to MVA to promote the Northern Islands, in addition to Iakopo's \$5,000 pay raise.

MVA furloughed 23 of their 34 staff, leaving them with only 11 people, including one each for Tinian and Rota. "We don't have enough staff. We would need to bring our staff back in order to provide 100% full marketing and promotional programs," Iakopo said.

Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan) pointed out at the hearing that, even with the transfer of funds, MVA is still hampered with the ability to move forward with its promotion of the CNMI, adding that there are no foreseen successes down the line given that it is indefinite when the CNMI is going to reopen its doors to tourists.

Iakopo said that Asiana Airlines is to begin an eight-flight "trial" be-

ginning mid-August, while Skymark Airlines Inc. earlier announced the suspension of its flights until the end of September.

The government's decision to procure the services of YouTube influencer Robert Arrington to promote the Northern Islands in his *Deer Meat for Dinner* channel also came under scrutiny.

Finance Secretary David M. Atalig said his office transferred \$59,000 to MVA for this purpose.

Iakopo explained it as an "opportunity" for MVA. "MVA has always been an advocate for eco-tourism, and what better time than now to share not only Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, but our Northern Islands as well," Iakopo said.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

NMC

From Page 2

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Other inquiries/general questions

NMC hotline: (670) 285-7651 and (670) 285-2059 or email nmc@marianas.edu **(PR)**

PUA

From Page 1

upon DOL's review.

"We have a system where we check the status of the contract worker. What we do is check and see if they're legally here and if they fall under any of the qualified alien status. If they don't fall under any of those qualifying alien criteria, we would deem the application as denied," she said.

Benavente added that since the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program is not included as a qualified alien and usually classify as a contract worker, then their applications will be denied.

"CW is not included under the qualified alien. We will review the application and if they are classified as a contract worker, CW-1, then, yes, they will be denied," she said.

When asked if there was any updates from the Office of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP),

Benavente said there has been no new updates.

"No update at this time. I was informed by the office of Kilili that they did write to U.S. DOL and they're really trying and we advocate for that," she said.

Delay in PUA payments

Benavente said there is still a delay in the CNMI's distribution of PUA payments because a DOL review found that majority of the applications were either incomplete or not filled out correctly.

"We are inputting over 5,000 applications, both online and through hard copy, and majority of these applications are incomplete or were filled out incorrectly. It's understandable since we're all new to this pandemic, so if an application is complete it would be a miracle," she said.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

CHECKS

From Page 1

delay. The U.S. Labor Department has been guiding the Marianas government's implementation of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation programs set up in the CARES Act in March.

"Individuals residing in the Marianas, by and large, do not have the financial resources to live without income for months," the three lawmaker told Scalia. "We understand that the Commonwealth's lack of an existing unemployment insurance system required the construction of the PUA application and the mechanism for distribution from the ground up.

"There must be a greater sense of urgency on the part of your department and the Commonwealth government to disburse the PUA pay-

ments," they said in their letter.

In Guam, which also does not have an existing unemployment insurance system to protect workers laid off through no fault of their own, Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero announced that the first payments, worth \$35 million, went out weeks ago.

The House Ways and Means Committee last week, also, issued guidance on the total weekly benefit that most laid-off workers in the Marianas should be receiving. The total weekly amount is \$945, greater than that being paid in 18 U.S. states.

Immediately after winning coverage for Marianas in the CARES Act, Sablan extracted a clarification from U.S. Labor that CNMI government employees would be eligible for \$945 weekly assistance. Sablan said that most of the complaints his office receives about the long-delayed checks are coming from laid-off government employees. **(PR)**

OAG

From Page 3

or by a combination of these traffic violations."

Toolan said that Banes hit a parked car but left the scene.

Last May, Bradley disclosed that the filing of the case was delayed because the Superior Court's traffic docket was suspended in response to the COVID-19 orders. Bradley said the investigating officer was also delayed by COVID-19 duties.

Sources said Banes' vehicle hit a car on Beach Road in Susupe. Police officers allegedly pulled over the lawyer's vehicle by Joeten in Susupe. No one was injured in the incident.

Banes is the court-appointed counsel for Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig. The jury trial of Atalig and his girlfriend, Evelyn Atalig, on corruption charges, was supposed to start last March 10, but U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona postponed it for a week at that time due to Banes' arrest.

OAG strongly opposes parole for 5

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Saying public safety should be the primary concern facing members of the Board of Parole, the Office of the Attorney General is strongly opposing granting parole to five inmates, including one who tried to kill his girlfriend by setting her on fire and another described as a high-level drug dealer.

“While many inmates learn from their mistakes and are rehabilitated, there are some inmates with long criminal histories or serious offenses who should not yet be released into the community,” Chief Prosecutor John Bradley told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The five inmates with parole requests are John Piteg Teregeyo, 26; Ronnie San Nicolas, 25; John C. Hamilton, 33; Vincent SN. Norita, 34; and Demson Sachuo, 19.

The Board of Parole will hear the five’s parole applications at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Suupe beginning at 10am today, Wednesday, and tomorrow, Thursday.

Bradley said the Board of Parole’s decisions are particularly important considering the recent problems that have arisen

from criminals who have been released and resumed criminal conduct. He cited the case of Gordon Castro, who staged a 38-hour hostage drama in San Antonio before police officers fatally shot him on March 12, 2020. Bradley said that Castro had a substantial criminal history, had been imprisoned and was out on probation, and was on bail for two new drug trafficking offenses. Castro also ended up committing kidnapping, murder, and assault

of police officers with a dangerous weapon, he said. Bradley also cited the case of Shawn Appleby, who was on parole for murder and now faces a revocation hearing this week before the board for the alleged new crimes and violating the conditions of his parole.

Among the new parole applicants, Teregeyo had been convicted of arson and assault and battery. Bradley said the crimes also involved domestic violence, as Teregeyo had attacked his girlfriend. Teregeyo was sentenced to 11 years in prison, with six years suspended. He has already served two and a half years of his sentence.

Bradley said Teregeyo became angry at his girlfriend and tried to kill her by setting her on fire and preventing her from running away. “This was a very serious crime that could have resulted in the death of the victim by burning,” he said.

The Board of Parole, Bradley said, should focus on protecting the victim of this crime from any further fear by having Teregeyo serve the rest of his prison sentence. “A mere

two and a half years for trying to kill someone is not enough punishment,” he said.

Also, while serving his sentence, Teregeyo had two violations in 2019. Bradley said Teregeyo fought with someone at the Department of Corrections and smuggled a cell phone into prison. He said both are serious violations and the inmate served additional time in isolation for these violations.

In San Nicolas’ case, he was convicted of two drug trafficking charges. He was sentenced to 12 years in prison, four years suspended. He has served only a little over two and a half years.



Bradley

three and one-half years of his nine-year sentence.

Bradley said that Norita should remain in prison, given the seriousness of this crime and his long criminal history.

As a juvenile, Bradley said, Norita began committing crimes and was frequently detained or investigated for curfew violations, drug possession, and minor in possession of alcohol. As an adult, Norita was convicted of robbery and burglary and served time before his current offenses.

In 2005, Norita was convicted of robbery and was sentenced to confinement. In 2012, he was charged with theft and burglary of an apartment. For those crimes, he served confinement, received parole, served probation, and violated numerous conditions of his parole and probation.

In short, Bradley said, Norita showed that he is a hardened criminal who is not being rehabilitated by confinement, parole, or probation.

The parole officer recommends early release. But in opposing early release, Bradley said Norita has stolen, robbed, and endangered the safety of numerous members of the community. He said Norita has served a small percentage of his most recent sentence. “Early release will undoubtedly result in new crimes and endanger innocent

people,” he said.

In Hamilton’s case, he was convicted of burglary and sentenced to 10 years confinement, only two years suspended. He has served six and a half years.

He broke into the home of a family that included a 3-year-old child. The family was at home at the time. When confronted, Hamilton threatened the person with a screwdriver and injured them. In addition, Hamilton has a prior arrest for driving under the influence that was resolved by a guilty plea for reckless driving. He also admits to being a meth user.


Bradley noted that Hamilton has had two incidents of assault/fighting while serving his sentence, one as recently as 2019.

Bradley said the victims in this case should receive great consideration as Hamilton violated their privacy, threatened them with violence and likely created great apprehension in the family for everyone’s safety in the home.


The parole officer opposes Hamilton’s early release.

Bradley said Hamilton should serve the remainder of his eight years of confinement, which is only another year and a half.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-20-023

CHINA TOWN WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of China Town Waterline Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general installation of a new main waterline and lateral service line; connection to the existing waterline; relocation of water meters from private property to right-of-way, installation of gate valve assembly, air release valves, fire hydrant assembly, flush hydrants; existing lateral service tap relocation; restoration of existing asphalt concrete road; and other related work. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **June 25, 2020 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **“CUC-IFB-20-023, China Town Water Line Replacement Project”**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 16, 2020**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.*

All bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 30, 2020** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Ms. Kirztie Alley Reyes, CUC Water/Wastewater Jr. Engineer via email kirztie.reyes@cucgov.org and Ms. Christie L. Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Technician Senior via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp



PUBLIC NOTICE

Draft 2021-2025 Section 309 Assessment and Strategy Request for Public Comment

DATE: June 16, 2020

NOTICE: This is to notify the general public that the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) under the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) is seeking input on its **DRAFT 2021-2025 Section 309 Assessment and Strategy Report**. Every five years, states and territories are encouraged to conduct self-assessments of their coastal management programs to strengthen and improve their federally approved coastal management programs in one or more of nine enhancement areas.

These enhancement areas include aquaculture, coastal hazards, cumulative and secondary impacts, energy and government facility siting, marine debris, ocean and Great Lakes resources, public access, special area management plans, and wetlands. Each program identifies high-priority management issues and important needs and information gaps the program must fulfill to address these issues.

The draft document can be accessed at the following link: https://dcrm.gov.mp/wp-content/uploads/crm/CNMI_Section309v.5_06.12.20_DRAFT_Clean.pdf.

Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM office at the Gualo Rai Center on Middle Road, by email at planning@dcrm.gov.mp, and by phone at (670) 664-8318. It is the agency’s intent to include all written and oral comments received during this comment period. Feedback obtained through this process will inform the development of the final version of the document.

/s/ JANICE E. CASTRO
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

July 10 is deadline for 2020 CNMI prevailing wage survey

The Department of Commerce's Central Statistics Division is reminding businesses and employers who have not completed responding to the Prevailing Wage Study survey to do so before the deadline this Friday, July 10, 2020.

The PWS survey began on June 11 and was set to close the data collection phase on June 30; however, after assessing the project's progress, the PWS Team decided to extend the deadline to July 10, giving businesses and employers more time to complete the survey.

The division thanks all businesses and employers who have already completed their PWS. As of July 6, a total of 536 employers in the private sector have reported on 8,637 employees. In the 2019 PWS, 937 employers with over 19,000 employees participated. "As we assess the many challenges we have in our economy, Gov. [Ralph DLG] Torres and I can't stress how important this type of data contributes to our short term and long term economic recovery plans. We once again

ask for our private sector partners for their assistance in completing the 2020 PWS survey and we thank them in advance for their understanding and support especially during these trying times," said Lt. Gov. Arnold Palacios in a statement Monday.

Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman emphasizes the importance of completing the survey and encourages businesses and employers to go online and complete the PWS survey questionnaire before this Friday's deadline. "The participation of every employer in this year's PWS will ensure that an hourly wage rate from within the CNMI can be derived for the maximum number of Standard Occupation Code Detailed Titles and made available for employers when applying for a CW-1 visa. As you well know, when there is no published prevailing hourly wage rate issued by the governor for an SOC title, employers will have to use a wage amount from Guam or the U.S. Department of Labor National Occupa-

tional Employment Statistics, whose wage amounts are usually much higher than the

Employers urged to be involved in USDOL's apprenticeship programs

The CNMI Department of Labor Workforce Investment Agency encourages CNMI employers to avail of its new U.S. Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship Program to upskill, train and prepare their existing workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This is an opportune time for employers to close the skills gap between U.S. eligible workers and non-U.S. eli-

gible workers and we are offering such option through the ongoing Apprenticeship State Expansion Grant," said Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente.

Business can access the portal online at <http://cnmidata.commerce.gov.mp/>.

For questions or inquiries about the Prevailing Wage Project, call (670) 322-3005/3007 or email cnmi.csd@commerce.gov.mp. (PR)

Employers will be assisted through the entire process of becoming a recognized U.S.DOL RAP provider. DOL WIA staff has established the relationship between the Registered Apprenticeship Program and have access to a recognized Apprenticeship Coach to help with the process. In addition, employers will have access to financial assistance packages to help fund qualified

warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

For questions or inquiries about the Prevailing Wage Project, call (670) 322-3005/3007 or email cnmi.csd@commerce.gov.mp. (PR)

Employers urged to be involved in USDOL's apprenticeship programs

Employers will be assisted through the entire process of becoming a recognized U.S.DOL RAP provider. DOL WIA staff has established the relationship between the Registered Apprenticeship Program and have access to a recognized Apprenticeship Coach to help with the process. In addition, employers will have access to financial assistance packages to help fund qualified

costs of such training as well as a train-the-trainer courses to help with the transfer of information and skills from the trainer to the trainee.

If interested in the program and how it can help you as an employer or incumbent worker, contact the CNMI DOL-WIA Division at 664-1711, email: cnmi.dolase@gmail.com, or visit the CNMI DOL website, www.marianaslabor.net. (PR)

EARTHQUAKE BRIEFS

5.0-magnitude in Colonia

At 02:20am on July 07, 2020, a report of a 5.0-magnitude earthquake occurred 172 km north-northeast of Colonia, Micronesia. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

5.5-magnitude in Pagan

At 11:17pm on July 7 2020, a report of a 5.5-magnitude earthquake occurred 210

kilometers north-northwest of Pagan in the Northern Mariana Islands. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

5.1-magnitude in Yap

At 7:20am on July 07, 2020, a report of a 5.1-magnitude earthquake occurred 411 km Northeast of Yap in the Federated state of Micronesia. Currently, there are no tsunami

warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

6.2-magnitude in Micronesia

At 04:16am on July 07, 2020, a report of a 6.2-magnitude earthquake occurred 254 km north of Fais in Micronesia. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For

more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

4.9-magnitude in Marianas region

At 12:20pm on July 3, 2020, a report of a 4.9-magnitude earthquake occurred at 20.155°N, 146.214°E in the Mariana Islands region. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, please contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Position: Accountant and Auditor

Job Description: Examine, analyze, and interpret accounting records for the purpose of giving advise or preparing income controls over financial reporting, or other agreed-upon external audit report. As a member of Audit Team, he/she will examine financial and accounting record and other documents, ask a range of questions from formal written questions to informal oral questions to support the Independent Auditors and he/she must provide support, technical assistance, direction and review the work of all staff members assigned to the engagement. Prepare CNMI, Guam and Various US States individual & corporate income tax and other compliance taxes.

Minimum Qualifications: MAJOR IN BUSINESS OR FINANCIAL RELATED

Job Site: Saipan, CNMI

How to apply: Submit a professional resume to:

BURGER & COMER, P.C

Office Address: Suite 203, MHII Building, Marina Heights, Business Park, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands


Mailing Address: P.O. Box 504053, Saipan, MP 96950




BEACH CLEANUP

The Tau Gamma Phi Northern Mariana Islands Council recently did a three-hour beach cleanup from the Garapan Fishing Base to Quartermaster Road—a distance of 2.5 miles.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT**



INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: DPW20-ITB-018

SUBMISSION DATE: August 4, 2020 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“Repair of the DPW Roads and Grounds Traffic Branch Office Lower Base, Saipan”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.


A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division required for each set.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **July 21, 2020, 9:00 a.m. local time at DPW Roads and Grounds Lower Base, Saipan.** The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **July 30, 2020** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.


THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ **JAMES A. ADA**
SECRETARY, DPW

/s/ **FRANCISCO C. AGUON**
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



BOARD OF PAROLE

P.O. BOX 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel. Nos.: (670) 664-3300 – 3302 • FAX: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govhop@pticm.com

TO ALL MEDIA SERVICES PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

MESSAGE: The Honorable Ralph Dlg. Torres, Governor and the Honorable Arnold I. Palacios, Lt. Governor, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the “Open Government Act of 1992”, hereby give Official Notice that a **Parole Hearing** is scheduled for **July 08, 09, & 10, 2020 (Wednesday – Friday), beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Governor P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Office of the Governor**, located at Susupe, Saipan MP 96950. The Agenda is as follows:

I. Preliminary Matters		
A. Call to order		
B. Roll Call		
C. Presence of Quorum		
II. Consent Items		
A. Adoption of Agenda		
III. Parole Hearing	BOP No.:	Criminal Case No.:
1. Vincent SN. Norita	20-008	17-00050/12-0202/04-0208
2. John Hamilton	20-009	15-0061
3. Demson Sachuo	20-010	18-0101
4. John Teregeyo	20-011	17-0141
5. Ronnie San Nicolas	20-012	19-0002/17-0143
IV. Revocation Hearing		
6. Shawn C. Appleby	19-012	96-0319/99-0479D/04-0200
V. Adjournment		

If deemed necessary, members of the Board of Parole may elect to vote to meet in Executive Session to discuss any of the items listed above.

If you have any question or need additional information, please contact the Board of Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-3300 or 664-3302.

/s/
Ramon B. Camacho
BOP Chairman

7/7/2020
Date

VINCENT J. SEMAN, CNMI Bar No. F-0361
Seman Law Offices, LLC
JET Realty Bldg., Suite 204
P.O. Box 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 323-2115
E-mail: vjsenan@semanlaw.com

Attorney for: Plaintiff
BANKPACIFIC LTD.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

<p>BANKPACIFIC LTD., Plaintiff, vs. ESTEBAN C. PALOMERO and BARBARA S. PALOMERO, AKA BARBARA SOMOL, Defendants.</p>	<p>CIVIL ACTION NO. 19-198C NOTICE OF SALE</p>
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order of Sale issued by the Court in this matter on June 15, 2020, I will sell, at public auction to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:

Lot No. 011 G 1080, containing an area of 815 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 20, dated December 3, 1993, the description therein incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time and Place of Sale: The sale will be held on July 24, 2020, at the hour of 11:00 a.m., at JET Realty Bldg., Suite 204, P.O. Box 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950. The sale will be opened to general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale: The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED: June 29, 2020.

SEMAM LAW OFFICES, LLC

By: /s/ Vincent J. Seman
Vincent J. Seman, F-0361
Attorney for Plaintiff

Jastillana graduates from Emerson College

BOSTON, MA—Lee Ann Jastillana of Saipan joined 958 others from the Class of 2020 who were awarded undergraduate degrees by Emerson College last May 10.

Jastillana received a bachelor of science degree in Journalism.

The college said it is committed to holding a graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020 in person when it is safe to do so, at a later date that has yet to be determined.

The college launched an Emerson 2020 Celebration website to honor graduates' achievements with more than 800 submissions from students, families, alumni, faculty, and staff, which includes photos, videos, audio submissions, and text. Video submissions included well wishes from well-known alumni and celebrities in the entertainment industry. (PR)

NMC asks for \$10M

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College asked the Legislature on Monday for a \$10.7-million budget for fiscal year 2021, as the House Ways and Means Committee kicked off its series of budget hearings at the House chamber on Capital Hill.

In justifying its request, college officials said the requested amount, totaling \$10,786,372, would pay for the college’s staff, its Board of Regents, Super Typhoon Yutu expenses, utilities, overload/adjunct instructors, Small Business Development Center operations and personnel, and other expenses.

In the budget request he sent the Legislature earlier, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres proposed a budget of just \$2.8 million for NMC, from the \$5.9 million allocated in last year’s budget. Its board of regents is being proposed to be allocated \$51,158, also a drop from last fiscal year’s \$107,853.

According to NMC interim chief finance officer, Shelly Tudela, NMC relies solely on the appropriations request since it will help NMC pay salaries and benefits for staff. NMC has a total of 150 employees that will be funded by the budget.

In a slideshow presentation by NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico, he explained that 78% of the requested funds will go to salaries and benefits, while 9% will go to Super Typhoon Yutu expenses, 6% will go to overload/adjunct instructors, 3% for utilities, 2% for SBDC personnel and operations, 1% for NMC’s Board of Regents, and 1% for other expenses.

Although NMC gets federal funds, these funds do

not cover staff salaries and benefits. In fact, Eliptico said that these federal funds will allow NMC to “rebuild and establish NMC’s footprints in the CNMI.” He reiterated that NMC relies heavily on legislative appropriations and Torres’ help to be able to pay locally funded employees.

“As CFO Shelley mentioned, there are these [federal] funds that we’re pursuing [but] none of them fund operations, and that’s where we look to you, because if you saw the pie chart earlier, NMC is pretty much an \$18-million to \$20-million operation every year—from our federal programs to other programs and services—[and] we rely on the legislative appropriation and the governor’s help in the budgeting process to be able to provide funding for our locally funded employees,” said Eliptico.

The college does have some federally funded staff such as NMC’s Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Services program; Project Proa, which helps students provide tutoring/mentoring services for other students; the Adult Basic Education program; and programs that help individuals with disabilities, etc.

“I want to assure you with extreme confidence that we are doing our best to find other dollars out there...and we’ve been very successful. The funding that we’ve been able to secure in just the last year has not been seen in NMC’s 40-year history,” said Eliptico. “I’m not saying that to toot our own horn. I’m saying that because we want to come here letting you know that, again, we’re trying to help ourselves by finding these funds, but we need your help on these locally funded salaries.”

Zero filers on first day of submission

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission opened Monday the submission of nominating petition and candidacy for the upcoming Nov. 3 general elections, but no one came to submit any filings.

CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez said it’s just normal in CNMI elections—that nobody files on the first day but many candidates usually file on the last day of submission.

Aug. 5 is the deadline to submit nominating petitions and candidacies.

Villagomez said CEC is open from 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday. Monday was

also the last day to establish residency requirements. The last day of registration to vote is Sept. 4.

Villagomez encourages interested candidates to come in early before the deadline to avoid jampacking the CEC office in Susupe. She said people should be wearing masks and practice proper social distancing at CEC office’s service counter.

The positions that are up for grabs in the coming general elections on Nov. 3 is for the U.S. delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives and 34 other government positions, excluding three from the Judiciary for retention.

This election used to be called mid-term elections.

CHARITY R. HODSON (F0487)
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 502607 CK, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-1615
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749
charity@chodsonlaw.com
Attorney for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH)
DEVELOPMENT)
AUTHORITY,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) CIVIL ACTION
ERIC B. ATALIG) NO. 11-0004
and LOURDES F.)
ATALIG,)
Defendants)

AMENDED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the fee simple title to the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on **July 15, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Tract No. 21769-R2-5 (formerly part of Tract 21769-R2, which was part of Tract 21769, AH 72 and also known as Lot 352 R 01), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3007/95, the original of which was recorded on April 5, 1995, as Document No. 95-0841 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

Tract No. 21769-R2-9 (formerly part of Tract 21769-R2, which was part of Tract 21769, AH 72 and also known as Lot 352 R 01), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3007/95, the original of which was recorded on April 5, 1995, as Document No. 95-0841 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

Tract No. 21769-R2-10 (formerly part of Tract 21769-R2, which was part of Tract 21769, AH 72 and also known as Lot 352 R 01), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3007/95, the original of which was recorded on April 5, 1995, as Document No. 95-0841 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

The foregoing properties contain a total area of 2,618 square meters, more or less. This Amended Notice of Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution entered in this action on **January 12, 2017**, in order to satisfy the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendants Eric B. Atalig and Lourdes F. Atalig.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

- Public Sale:** The auction shall be open to the general public and will be held in the open air. All public attendees are asked to observe social distancing measures and to wear face masks. Any attendees wishing to appear by video conferencing or telephone must notify counsel for CDA in advance at the contact information provided in this notice at least by 10:00AM on July 14, 2020.
- With Reserve:** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer:** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.

4. **Bids:** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person to Charity R. Hodson, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya; through mail with the address of P.O. Box 502607, Saipan, MP 96950; or through electronic mail to charity@chodsonlaw.com.

5. **Deposit and Payment:** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which shall revert to the Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. **Change of Terms:** The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Defendants Eric B. Atalig and Lourdes F. Atalig in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2020.

/s/
Charity R. Hodson, F0487
Attorney for CDA

CHARITY R. HODSON (F0487)
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 502607 CK, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-1615
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749
charity@chodsonlaw.com
Attorney for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH)
DEVELOPMENT)
AUTHORITY,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) CIVIL ACTION
THE ESTATE OF) NO. 12-0004
HERMAN T. PALACIOS)
and THE ESTATE)
OF JOYCELYN)
C. PALACIOS,)
Defendants)

AMENDED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the fee simple title to the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on **July 15, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the

Northern Mariana Islands:

Lot No. 001 I 13, containing an area of 1,529 square meters, more or less, as described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 I 00, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 712, on the 1st day of March 1971, including all existing and future improvements on the said property;

This Amended Notice of Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution entered in this action on **January 7, 2019**, in order to satisfy the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendants Estate of Herman T. Palacios and Estate of Joycelyn C. Palacios.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

- Public Sale:** The auction shall be open to the general public and will be held in the open air. All public attendees are asked to observe social distancing measures and to wear face masks. Any attendees wishing to appear by video conferencing or telephone must notify counsel for CDA in advance at the contact information provided in this notice at least by 10:00AM on July 14, 2020.
- With Reserve:** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer:** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.

4. **Bids:** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person to Charity R. Hodson, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya; through mail with the address of P.O. Box 502607, Saipan, MP 96950; or through electronic mail to charity@chodsonlaw.com.

5. **Deposit and Payment:** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. **Change of Terms:** The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Defendant Pan-Marikai Development Corporation in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2020.

/s/
Charity R. Hodson, F0487
Attorney for CDA

MILLER LAW OFFICE, LLC
Richard C. Miller, Bar No. F0458
2nd Fl., Macaranas Bldg., Garapan
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Attorney for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH)
DEVELOPMENT)
AUTHORITY,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) CIVIL ACTION
ESTATE OF) NO. 12-0078
VICENTE C.)
CASTRO, et al.,)
Defendants.)

AMENDED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the remaining leasehold interest in the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on July 15, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

55-year leasehold interest, dated December 11, 1991, in:

Tract No. EA 220-2-1-R2, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2004/03, the original of which was recorded October 23, 2002, as Document No. 02-2147 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, and containing an area of 20,001 square meters more or less.

This Notice of Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution on a leasehold interest in Part of E.A. 220, situated in Talofofo area, Saipan, entered in this action on April 19, 2016, in order to satisfy in part the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendant Pan-Marikai Development Corporation.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

- Public Sale:** The auction shall be open to the general public.
- With Reserve:** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer:** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.

4. **Bids:** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person to Miller Law Office, LLC, through mail with the address of PMB 372, P.O. Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950; or through electronic mail to millercmlaw@protonmail.com.

5. **Deposit and Payment:** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which shall revert to the Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. **Change of Terms:** The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Defendant Pan-Marikai Development Corporation in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2020.

/s/
MILLER LAW OFFICE, LLC
by Richard C. Miller, Esq.

CHARITY R. HODSON (F0487)
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
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Attorney for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH)
DEVELOPMENT)
AUTHORITY,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) CIVIL ACTION
AMBROSE BENNETT,) NO. 16-0236
individually and dba)
LIL & BRO'S TRIKE)
DEALERSHIP & RENTALS,)
AND JUAN T. LIZAMA)
Defendants.)

AMENDED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the fee simple title to the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on **July 15, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Lot No. 031 A 01, containing an area of 1,186 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 031 A 00 dated 20 February 1985, as File No. 85-0423.

This Amended Notice of Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution entered in this action on **July 23, 2018**, in order to satisfy the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendants Ambrose Bennett, individual and dba Lil and Bro's Trike Dealership & Rentals, and Juan T. Lizama.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

- Public Sale:** The auction shall be open to the general public and will be held in the open air. All public attendees are asked to observe social distancing measures and to wear face masks. Any attendees wishing to appear by video conferencing or telephone must notify counsel for CDA in advance at the contact information provided in this notice at least by 10:00AM on July 14, 2020.
- With Reserve:** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer:** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.

4. **Bids:** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person to Charity R. Hodson, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya; through mail with the address of P.O. Box 02607, Saipan, MP 96950; or through electronic mail to charity@chodsonlaw.com.

5. **Deposit and Payment:** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. **Change of Terms:** The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interest of Defendant Juan T. Lizama to the property is being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2020.

/s/
Charity R. Hodson, F0487
Attorney for CDA

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXX, Issue No. 134

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EDITORIAL

Well, Florida reopened. COVID-19 is surging, and the economy's shaky. Happy now?

The Miami City Commission made a bold move Thursday, passing an emergency order demanding that masks be worn by everyone in a public place, not just when entering a business. Ignore the order, and face a civil fine.

Good move. The order is clear and resolute, with slowing the spread of the coronavirus top of mind. Now the city needs the means to enforce it.

In fact, Miami-Dade, and every other local municipality, should follow Miami's lead and make masks mandatory in public. Walk out of your house, make sure you're wearing a mask. Period.

Unfortunately, face coverings, a critical component in stopping the virus, have become politicized and viewed by some as an infringement of their personal freedom. It's a selfish and foolish stance.

Too many people don't care that a national study suggests that between now and October, 33,000 lives could be saved if more of us wore masks.

Enforcement difficult

How to enforce the city order was an issue at the commission meeting. After much discussion, commissioners agreed to set a minimum fine of \$50 for a first offense, a \$150 fine for a second offense and a \$500 fine for a third offense. Arrest is a possibility for habitual offenders.

The recent spike in COVID-19 cases has prompted the crackdown, but there is little public questioning of whether, for the sake of the economy, South Florida opened too soon at the urging of Gov. Ron DeSantis and President Donald Trump.

No matter the numbers, the governor and local mayors have made it clear there is no going back to quarantine. Our new reality is figuring out how to survive. It would help if everyone were on board.

DeSantis did the right thing by indicating Thursday at a Tampa news conference that he is not planning to move up to the next phase of reopening just yet. That would be downright irresponsible. "We are where we are," he said. True, and it's not in a good place.

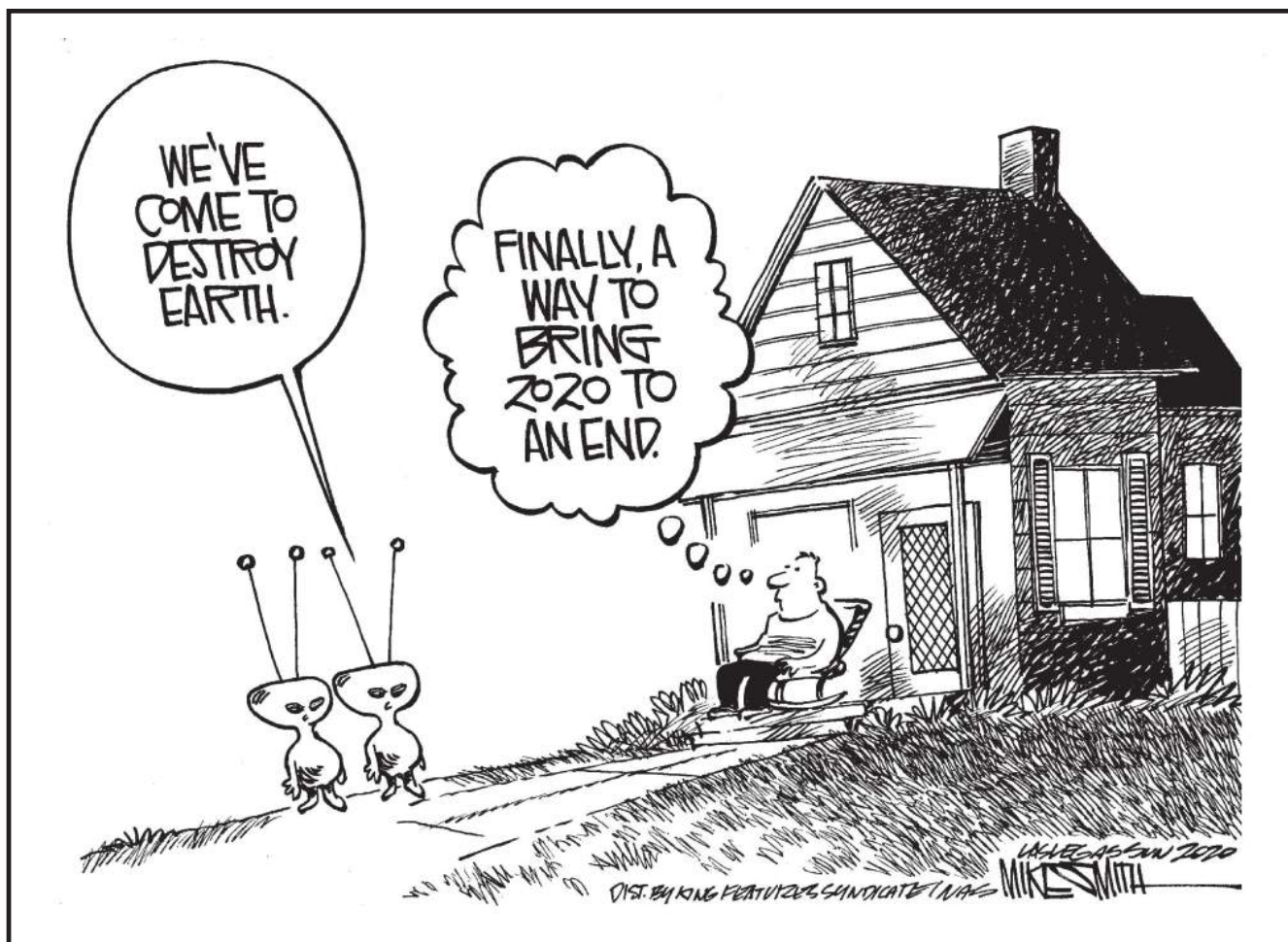
COVID-19 surges

In Florida, the number of new COVID-19 cases continues to gallop at record-breaking speed. Hospital admissions are up, and lines to be tested have grown long again since reopening.

If you listen carefully, you will hear a slight shift in taking responsibility stifling transmission—from political leaders to now the public.

The lack of firm directives from Tallahassee gave some residents tacit approval to flout the rules of physical distancing and wearing face masks. At this point, it really is their fault that the number of cases continues to rise—now sweeping in those between the ages of 18 and 34, who are the

See COVID-19 on Next Page



Wear your masks, because my child needs to go to school this fall

Wear your damn masks, because my child needs to go to school this fall.

It's been approximately 3,839 days of quarantine, and I'm in a pretty good routine. I broke down and bought a proper desk; unlike the table I had been using, it doesn't have a support beam underneath that barks my shin a dozen times a day. I set an alarm every morning. I figured out how to schedule calls and interviews around online school, when I can write, and how to keep myself on task. I'm getting used to it.

You know who's not? My kid.

It's been a rough four months for our children. They left school March 12, unsure if or when they'd be back, if or when they'd see their friends or beloved teachers again.

We are lucky—I can work from home, and my son is old enough to not need constant tending. We made it through the first few weeks with paper worksheets and sheer adrenaline, adjusting to our new, constricted lives.

But I know he's not getting used to it, because he told me so. The transition from his cheerily boisterous school, filled with learning and friends, to a smaller life spent largely within our homedoesn't suit.

Online classes began around spring break, a remarkable effort put together by our school administrators and teachers with little notice and fewer resources.

This is what I learned this spring: Online learning is not a thing.

Our school made no pretense that online learning was a substitute for in-person instruction. Teachers were clear that online classes were intended to reinforce what the kids had already learned, not communicate new material. I watched my child struggle to pay attention through the daily, hour-long Zoom call, listening to his teacher patiently working to draw students into the day's lesson, even when all that was visible on her own screen was the back of an empty sofa or sliver of light fixture and ceiling.

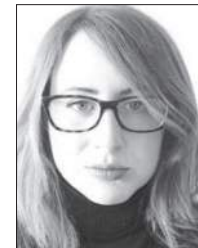
I cannot imagine how a teacher could effectively use an online learning platform to communicate new information to young children, particularly to an incoming fall class that he or she had not spent time with in-person.

But we made it, signing off the school year's final Zoom call without any sense of completion, and without, really, a summer ahead: no camps, no playdates, no trips to friends' pools. Just hours indoors while my husband and I work, without even online school to break the hours of monotony.

The American Academy of Pediatrics says in-person school is vital for a child's emotional and mental health. They're right. Teachers will tell you that in-person school is vital for a child's educational and intellectual growth. They're also right. Anyone

By **NANCY KAFFER**
Detroit Free Press

Nancy Kaffer is a Free Press columnist.



can tell you that the children who experience the worst educational outcomes will be most harmed by this online, at-home limbo in which we've spent most of this year. Our state's most vulnerable children may not have the technology required to attend online classes, and their parents' jobs may require their physical presence, whether childcare is available or not. That's the other part of online school that's so significant.

On Tuesday, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer told us that this is possible.

Michigan's pandemic management has succeeded in containing the spread of the virus. The academic website COVID Act Now says the virus is spreading here in a slow, controlled fashion. And though we've seen a spike in new diagnoses in some parts of the state, the total number of cases is still shrinking.

Whitmer is requiring local school districts to develop three plans for in-person learning, with stringent, moderate and minimal safety protocols, and a fully online plan. In each of the in-person plans, educators and staff are required to wear masks at all times, as are all students during transportation and in common areas. In classrooms, students in grades 6-12 must wear masks; younger children won't be required to.

Schools won't open just because the governor says they can. Ultimately, these decisions will be made at the district level, and many superintendents are anticipating the need for a mix of online and in-person instruction, in no small part because a small percentage of parents say they simply won't send their kids back to school this fall. Some surveys suggest that teachers, likewise, are hesitant to return. Federal funds will help districts pay for the particular needs of COVID-19, but I can't imagine it will be enough.

But Whitmer made it clear Tuesday that in-person school this fall is a real, viable option.

And equally as clear that this option is only viable if Michigan's COVID-19 numbers continue to fall.

So wear your masks. Wash your hands. Avoid crowded places. Because my kid needs to go to school this fall. And so does yours.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Point:

‘Return to work’ bonus a tempting solution with significant pitfalls

By **ROSS MARCHAND**
InsideSources.com

Ross Marchand is the vice president of policy for the Taxpayers Protection Alliance. He wrote this for InsideSources.com.



The U.S. economy is slowly getting its groove back as millions of businesses are beginning to call back their employees. But for the millions of Americans who continue to receive unemployment benefits, it may actually pay more to stay away from work than to go back to their jobs.

A temporary provision in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act states that laid-off Americans are eligible for a new, \$600-per-week flat federal benefit on top of existing state benefits. Lawmakers such as Rep. Kevin Brady, R-Texas, want to fix this problem by converting a part of these benefits into a “return to work” bonus for recipients re-entering the labor force. While this would be an improvement over the status quo, a true fix would tether benefits to previous wages. Millions of Americans can return to work, but only with the right incentives from Uncle Sam.

In their rush to pass through the CARES Act, lawmakers failed to consider the consequences of bloated and prolonged unemployment benefits. Even in a pandemic, unemployment benefits set at a high level will deter workers from going back to their previous jobs. That hasn’t stopped House Democrats from proposing an eight-month extension of the \$600-per-week benefit that the Congressional Budget Office estimates would result in unemployment benefits being higher than previous take home pay for more than 80% of recipients.

And, as a result, the CBO predicts that “the extension of the additional \$600 per week would probably reduce employment in the second half of 2020, and it would reduce employment in calendar year 2021. The effects from reduced incentives to work would be larger than the boost to employment from increased overall demand for goods and services.”

Fortunately, lawmakers are hard at work trying to prevent this situation from playing out. Brady’s Reopening America by Supporting Workers and Businesses Act would let rehired workers keep two weeks’ worth of federal unemployment benefits after taking a job. This \$1,200 “hiring bonus” would expire on July 31, which is also the current end-date of the CARES Act’s \$600 weekly benefit. The White House is reportedly looking at this proposal “very carefully,” along with a similar proposal introduced by Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, that would give Americans headed back to work a \$450-per-week temporary stipend (in addition to their wages).

Either of these wage subsidy proposals is far better than simply extending unemployment benefits and merits the careful consideration of lawmakers and the White House. But, these respective “fixes” fail to address the underlying problem with the current unemployment benefits system. Plenty of businesses are still shuttered and hanging by a thread. Owners of businesses such as restaurants and small retail stores can choose to retain their employees for the time being or furlough them.

The \$600-per-week unemployment benefit makes employers far more likely to proceed with

furloughs, since that option will have taxpayers paying workers’ salaries instead of the company footing the bill. That calculus doesn’t change under Brady’s or Portman’s plans because workers will still be better off temporarily taking unemployment and then nabbing rehiring bonuses a few weeks later. As is the case now, employers could have a well-compensated, temporarily furloughed workforce without having to pay for the inconvenience.

A far better and more sustainable solution would cap federal unemployment benefits to 100% of employees’ previous wages, as proposed by Reps. Ken Buck, R-Colo., and Ted Budd, R-N.C. Their Getting Americans Back to Work Act

would make the temporary federal unemployment benefit less attractive than ordinary wages but still sufficient to survive on. Employers could still choose to furlough their employees, but not without the costs and problems associated with demoralizing their workforce.

Economic evidence suggests that businesses are typically reluctant to cut wages (out of concern for morale) and will dip into savings if need be to maintain current compensation levels. The Paycheck Protection Program was designed to help maintain worker pay by awarding businesses forgivable loans based on payroll costs. Lawmakers should be encouraging employers to lean on PPP, rather than unloading workers onto the unemployment insurance system that could be extended at the whim of Congress. Only Buck and Budd’s proposal will accomplish this, and ultimately save taxpayer dollars over the long term.

The economy will continue to limp along for some time, but lawmakers can at least make things easier for workers and struggling businesses by reforming the broken unemployment insurance system.

COVID-19

From Page 8

new younger victims of COVID-19.

And governments’ inability to be everywhere at once, to enforce, say, mask requirements at the beach to slow transmission, could have been predicted. In fact, it was by a variety of national medical experts.

Again, the most diligent and responsible among us can wear masks, but how do we make others wear them? The state, and coun-

In recent weeks many members of Congress have been arguing against extending the \$600 weekly supplement to unemployment insurance benefits that was put into the original pandemic relief package. Some members of Congress have even argued for extra payments to encourage unemployed workers to return to work.

These proposals miss the logic that led Congress to originally put the supplements in place on a near unanimous vote. The Congress members who want to end the supplements and provide return-to-work bonuses quite explicitly are

arguing that we want people to return to work.

However, the whole point of the \$600 weekly supplement was to make it possible for people to not work. The idea was to give workers enough money to keep them more or less whole during a period in which they are not getting a paycheck. We wanted people to be able to stay at home rather than go to work in order to limit the spread of the pandemic.

This was a sensible policy. The shutdown of most businesses slowed the spread of the coronavirus in the United States, just as it did in other countries. It would make sense to reverse this policy and encourage people to go to work, if the pandemic were under control. Unfortunately, this is not the case in large parts of the country.

In the areas that had the strictest and longest shutdowns, like Michigan, Illinois and New York, the pace of the spread did slow sharply. At its peak in early April, Michigan was reporting more than 1,600 new cases a day. In recent days, the figure has been just more than 200.

ties, reopened to get the economy going again. There’s not denying that it’s been hammered.

But is it working? On Thursday, Johnson & Wales University in North Miami announced it’s closing. All freestanding Apple stores in South Florida also are shutting down.

Absent a strong, authoritative voice to navigate the state through this pandemic, little since reopening has been good for our—or the economy’s—health.

(c)2020 *Miami Herald*

Counterpoint:

Unemployment benefits should depend on the pandemic

By **DEAN BAKER**
InsideSources.com

Dean Baker is a macroeconomist and senior economist at the Center for Economic and Policy Research in Washington. He wrote this for InsideSources.com.



Illinois hit a peak of almost 3,000 cases a day in mid-May. It’s now around 500 a day. In early April, New York was seeing over 10,000 cases a day. In recent days it has had close to 500 new cases a day.

In these and other states, governors made the tough call to force businesses to close. These decisions faced opposition both from people within the state and from President Donald Trump. But they paid off in sharply lower infection rates.

While these states can safely reopen, with rules on face mask wearing, social distancing and other measures to prevent a resurgence of the pandemic, the same is not true of states that imposed less stringent lockdowns and reopened businesses earlier. In these states the pandemic is more out of control than ever.

For example, Texas is now seeing more than 6,500 cases a day. At its worst point in April or May, it had just over 1,600 cases a day. Florida now has over 5,000 cases a day compared to a peak in early April of just over 1,200. Arizona has now has almost 2,800 cases a day compared to a May peak of less than 400. Adjusted for the relative size of their populations, the growth of infections in Arizona today is not much lower than it was in New York at its peak in early April.

Given that many states have far higher infection rates now than they did during the periods of the lockdown, how can it make sense to say that we want people to go to work now, risking their own health and the health of those around them?






If Congress felt that the spread of the pandemic warranted people staying home when it passed the initial pandemic relief package, then it should follow that it still wants people to stay home in the areas where the pandemic is continuing to spread out of control.

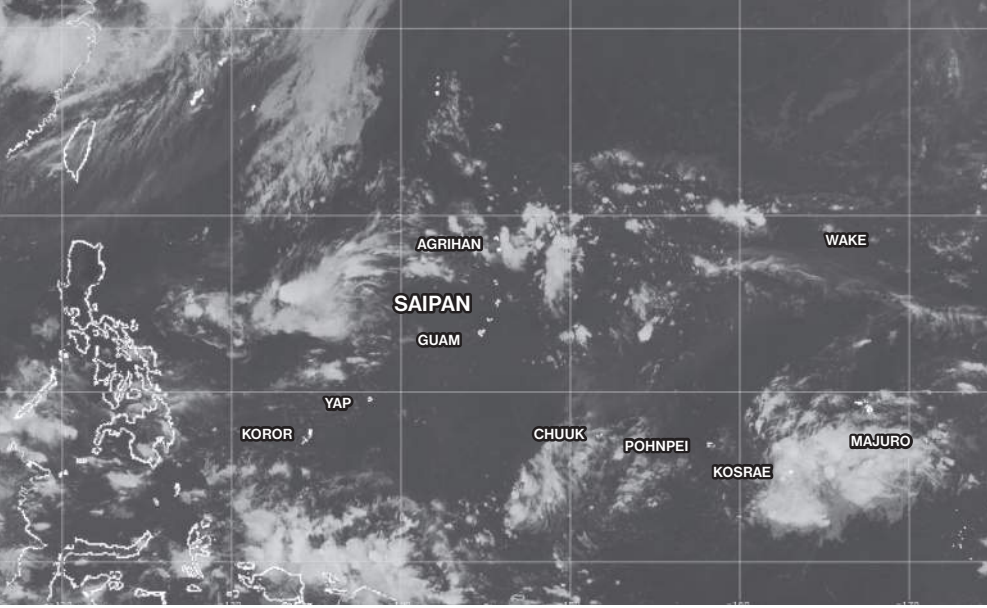
This suggests that we would want the continuation of supplemental benefits to depend on the success in controlling the pandemic. In states where the pandemic has been largely contained, it makes sense to at least scale back the supplement. (There are still economic considerations, which may warrant an expanded benefit.) However, in states where the pandemic is still out of control, the supplements are needed more than ever.

The positive test rate should provide a simple measure, which is difficult to game, of the extent to which the pandemic is under control. For example, we can say that if the positive rate is less than 4 percent, we can scale back the supplement, but otherwise it remains at its current level.

The basic point here is a simple one. If the pandemic is out of control, we should be encouraging people to stay home, not to return to work.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
									
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.		Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
88°	78°	88°	77°	88°	77°	89°	79°	89°	79°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 5:48 AM, TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

East trade-winds and a few showers prevail across the Marianas this morning.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/


STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklist-household-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

able, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors



CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

- ### Continue good hand hygiene

 - Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
 - Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

- ### Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

 - Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not avail-

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	88° / 80°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	87° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	86° / 78°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	87° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:52 AM	6:51 PM
Thursday	5:52 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	8:23 AM	9:30 PM
Thursday	-	9:15 AM	10:10 PM
Friday	-	10:05 AM	10:48 PM
Saturday	-	10:53 AM	11:24 PM
Sunday	-	11:39 AM	11:59 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	57° / 48°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	91° / 72°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	90° / 82°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 76°	
London	Partly Cloudy	82° / 63°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	84° / 67°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	57° / 52°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	86° / 76°	
Osaka	Rain	79° / 73°	
Paris	Showers	81° / 61°	
Busan	Windy	73° / 66°	
Rome	Sunny	88° / 70°	
Salem	Thunderstorm	89° / 71°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	63° / 56°	
Seoul	Thunderstorm	77° / 63°	
Tokyo	Rain	81° / 72°	
Washington, DC	Thunderstorm	90° / 77°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
4:14 AM	LOW TIDE	1.38	
8:41 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.95	
4:09 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.05	
11:20 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.00	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	1, 4, 6	UA174	7:30am	8:11am	1, 4, 6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1301.2	8:30AM	9:00AM	Tues/Fri	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Tues/Fri	1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable
3101.2	9:30AM	10:00AM	Tues/Fri				
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Tues/Fri				
ROTA TO GUAM							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable				
GUAM TO ROTA							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable				
SAIPAN TO TINIAN							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable				
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily				
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily				
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable				
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable				
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable				

TINIAN TO SAIPAN							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable				
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily				
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily				
2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable				
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable				
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable				
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable				
2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable				
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily				
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily				
2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable				
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

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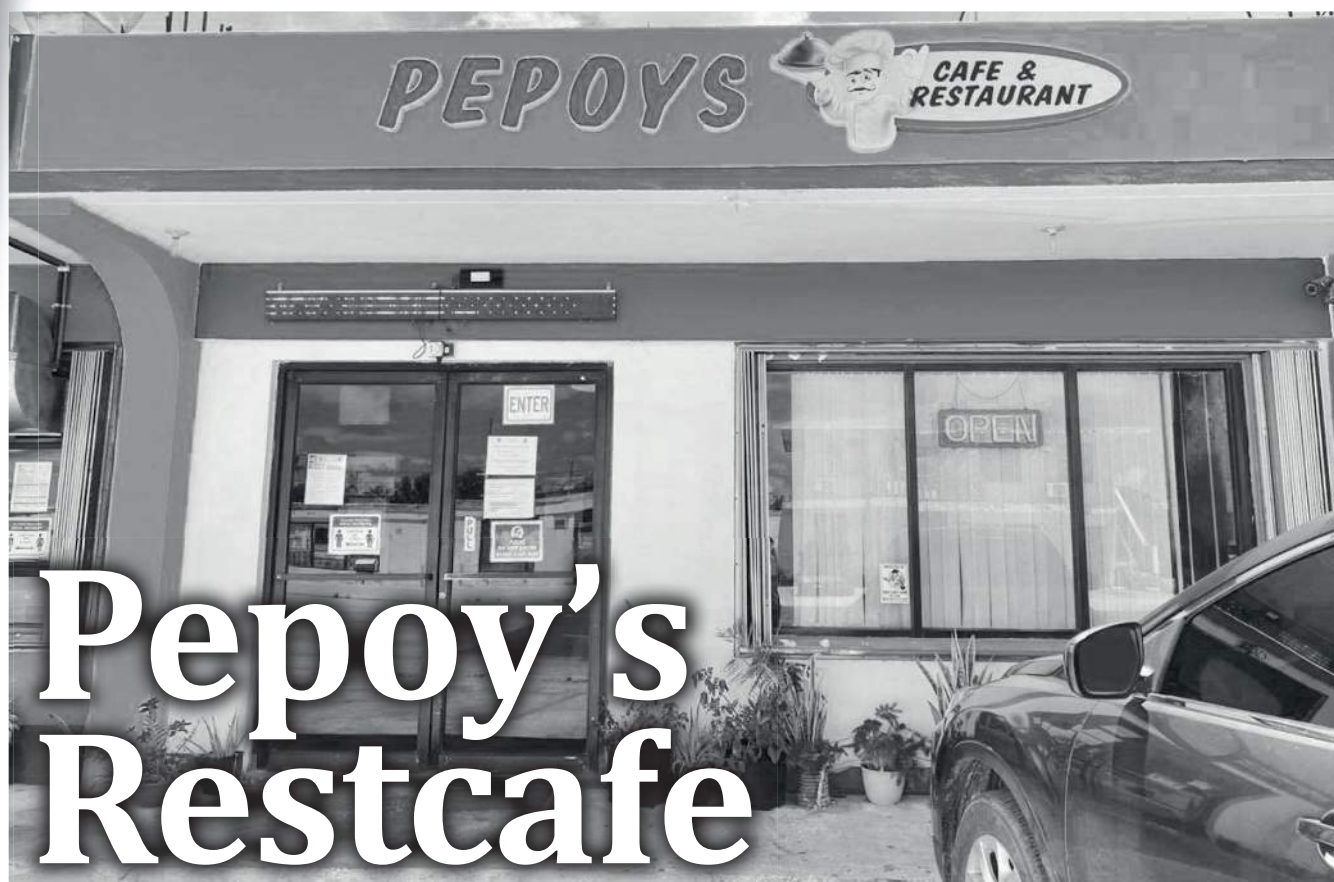
Business



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Pepoy's pork barbecue.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Pepoy's kare kare.



Pepoy's Restcafe turns a year old

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Pepoy's Restcafe in Chalan Kanoa turns a year old today.

By **MARK RABAGO**
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Pepoy's Restcafe will mark its one-year anniversary with a thanksgiving fellowship today at the Chalan Kanoa restaurant. Like other businesses that managed to stay afloat during this time of COVID-19, owner Marilou Malasarte is the first to say Pepoy's management and staff have a lot to be thankful for.

Bishop Ryan Jimenez will lead the simple anniversary celebration. As an added bonus, Pepoy's will be giving discounts on select food items throughout the day.

"We will also giving a small

token of appreciation (food equivalent) to our loyal customers who are always supporting our products," she said.

Malasarte is thankful that Pepoy's was able to reach the milestone, given the challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic that tested not only businesses but everyone this past year. "We are very proud to say that we managed to stay operational until now. [At that time we had just] opened [for] less than a year and was still introducing Pepoy's to the public, then suddenly a pandemic halted all of the businesses, gives us something to think if we can still reach our

one-year anniversary," she said.

With the help of its hard-working staff and support of loyal customers, Malasarte said that Pepoy's managed to weather the storm and was able to continue operations.

"Apart from the pandemic, we feel that the biggest challenge now is how to be consistent with the quality of food that we prepare and sell. Making it consistent in taste and quality is management's utmost goal and commitment to every customer that wants to

dine and patronize our food," she said.

As for future plans, Malasarte said she wants to expand Pepoy's dining area and build a larger karaoke room to accommodate more customers. "But right now the most important thing is to survive and provide jobs for our employees. The management and staff of Pepoy's would like to express our sincerest gratitude to our customers for the support and trust you gave us. ... We owe our survival to all of you. ... We promise that we

will continue to do our best to provide quality food and services that everyone looks forward to when they dine at Pepoy's," she said.

Pre-pandemic or not, Malasarte said Pepoy's bestseller continues to be its bulalo (soup made from beef shank). Its pork and chicken skewers have also become quite popular immediately after Pepoy's started offering them a few months after opening. Other dishes that Pepoy's have become known for are its Filipino viands like dinuguan, kare

kare, tocilog, tapsilog, pakbet, pork intestine skewers, tapa, and its signature Pepoy's silog.

Pepoy's Restcafe is located in the Armatech Building in Chalan Kanoa, just right after the stoplight at the U.S. Post Office. It is open daily from 7am to 9pm. It used to sit a maximum of 40 customers but, to adhere to government-mandated social distancing rules, it can accommodate 20 at this time. For any questions on the menu, take out, delivery, or catering, call 483-8895.

Small business aid went beyond hard-hit companies, data show

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government on Monday identified roughly 650,000 mostly small businesses and nonprofits that received taxpayer money through a federal program that was designed to soften job losses from the coronavirus but also benefited wealthy, well-connected companies and some celebrity owned firms.

The Treasury Department's Payroll Protection Program approved applicants from a broad swath of industries. Some that were less directly impacted by the pandemic,

such as manufacturing and construction, received a greater proportion of the loans than the hard-hit restaurant and hotel industries. Many law firms and private equity companies also obtained loans.

Businesses owned by politicians also borrowed from the program, including a minor league baseball team owned by the family of the governor of Ohio. A large franchisee of Wendy's, Taco Bell and Pizza Hut restaurants, whose CEO is a major donor to President Donald Trump, received loans totaling \$15 to \$30 million.

DOCOMO PACIFIC launches new app to help you skip the line

TAMUNING, Guam—DOCOMO PACIFIC, regional leader in innovation, telecommunications, and entertainment, joins the Skiplino app, allowing customers to schedule store visits and avoid waiting in line.

The Skiplino app offers customers a faster and more efficient way to book an appointment at our Agana Shopping Center, GPO, Micronesia Mall, and Gualo Rai locations. Once the appointment has been booked by the customer, the app intuitively calculates the travel time to the selected store and adjusts if delays and cancellations occur.

"We realize the importance

of saving time and avoiding waiting in line when transacting with us. We hope this new technology will help reduce your exposure to crowds and enhance your overall experience at our store locations. We invite you to download and start using the Skiplino app today."

Elizabeth Henry, Vice President, Consumer Sales & Customer Care, DOCOMO PACIFIC

Try Skiplino for your next appointment using the following steps:

1. Download the free Skiplino app from the Apple or Google Play store on your device and follow the easy step by step instructions on the app.

2. Launch the app and choose your country (Guam or Northern Mariana Islands).

3. Choose the branch you wish to visit.

4. Select CUSTOMER SERVICE and your date/time of visit.

5. Input your NAME and REASON for VISIT.

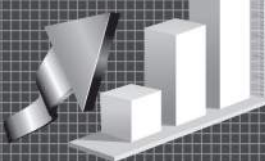
5. Book your appointment and instantly get a customer ticket.

6. You may receive a phone call from a DOCOMO PACIFIC Customer Care associate for more information so they can prepare for your visit.

DOCOMO PACIFIC is a wholly owned subsidiary of NTT DOCOMO, Japan's lead-

ing mobile operator. Headquartered in Tamuning, Guam, DOCOMO PACIFIC is the largest provider of personal, residential, enterprise connectivity and entertainment services in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. Named Guam's most reliable network, based on GWS' 2019 OneScore ranking. We are also the 4-time winner of Pika's Best of Guam and 4-time winner of Best of The Pacific. DOCOMO PACIFIC is dedicated to bringing you and your family closer to the things that matter most. Get to know more about what makes us "Better Together" at www.docomopacific.com. (PR)

STOCK PORTFOLIO



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

26,287.03
+459.67
1.78%

S&P

3,179.72
+49.71
1.59%

NASDAQ

10,433.65
+226.02
2.21%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.4342
British Pound	0.7995
Canadian Dollar	1.3544
Chinese Yuan	6.9015
Euro	0.8835

Hong Kong Dollar	7.7498
Indian Rupee	74.2188
Japanese Yen	107.4380
Malaysian Ringgit	4.2264
New Zealand Dollar	1.5250
Philippine Peso	48.4395

Russian Ruble	70.3455
Singapore Dollar	1.3918
South Korean Won	1167.61
Swiss Franc	0.9423
Taiwan Dollar	28.9184
Thailand Baht	31.0530

Nation

Hospitals approaching capacity as Miami closes restaurants

MIAMI (AP)—Hospitals rapidly approached capacity across the Sunbelt, and the Miami area closed indoor dining at restaurants and gyms again because of the surging coronavirus Monday, as the U.S. emerged from a Fourth of July weekend of picnics, pool parties and beach outings that health officials fear could fuel the rapidly worsening outbreak.

The seesaw effect—restrictions lifted, then reimposed—has been seen around the country in recent weeks and is expected again after a holiday that saw crowds of people celebrating, many without masks.

“We were concerned before the weekend and remain concerned post-holiday, as anecdotal stories and observed behavior indicate that many continue to disregard important protective guidance,” said Heather Woolwine, a spokeswoman for the Medical University of South Carolina.

Confirmed cases are on the rise in 41 out of 50 states plus the District of Columbia, and the percentage of tests coming back positive for the virus is increasing in 39 states.

Florida, which recorded an all-time high of 11,400 new cases Saturday and has seen its

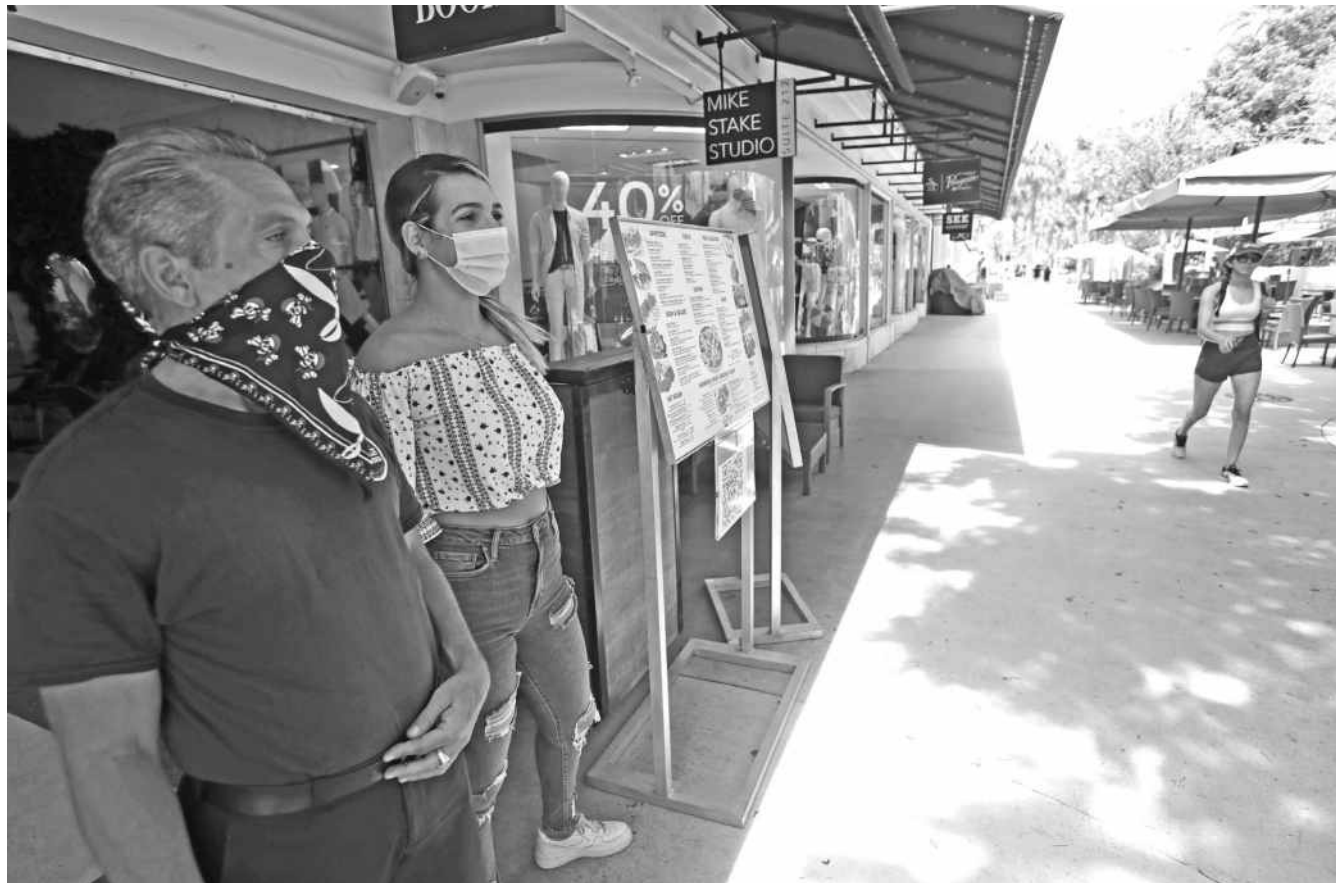
Trump donors among early recipients of coronavirus loans

WASHINGTON (AP)—As much as \$273 million in federal coronavirus aid was awarded to more than 100 companies that are owned or operated by major donors to President Donald Trump’s election efforts, according to an Associated Press analysis of federal data.

Many were among the first to be approved for a loan in early April, when the administration was struggling to launch the lending program. And only eight businesses had to wait until early May before securing the aid, according to the AP’s review of data released Monday.

The Trump-connected companies obtained the aid through the Paycheck Protection Program, which extends a lifeline to small businesses struggling to navigate the pandemic. Fast-food chains like Mui Brands, oil and gas companies, and white-collar firms were all granted a slice of more than \$659 billion in low-interest business loans that will be forgiven if the money is used on payroll, rent and similar expenses.

All told, the Trump supporters who run these companies have contributed at least \$11.1 million since May 2015 to Trump’s campaign commit-



Restaurant workers Alvin Lopez, left, and Maria Lindo watch for customers as they stand outside Aura at Books & Books, Monday, July 6, 2020, on Miami Beach, Florida’s famed Lincoln Road. AP

positive test rate lately reach more than 18%, has been hit especially hard, along with other Sunbelt states such as Arizona, California and Texas.

A virus outbreak in the Cali-

fornia Legislature indefinitely delayed the state Assembly’s return to work from a scheduled summer recess. Five people including Assemblywoman Autumn Burke tested positive.

for comment.

Mui Brands, a San Antonio, Texas-based company that operates Taco Bell, Pizza Hut and Wendy’s franchises, was approved for a loan worth between \$5 million and \$10 million. Its owner, James Bodenstedt, has donated \$672,570 to Trump since 2016, records show. The company did not respond to a request for comment.

Irving, Texas-based M Crowd Restaurant Group, which owns 27 Texas restaurants including the Mi Cocina chain, was approved for between \$5 million and \$10 million. Ray Washburne, one of the company’s founders, was vice chairman of the Trump Victory Committee in 2016 and donated \$100,000 to the PAC last August. The company did not respond to a request for comment.

“The PPP was a huge success and saved 51 million American jobs, including at Joe Biden’s old law firm and many companies associated with Obama Administration alums,” said Trump campaign spokeswoman Samantha Zager. “When the rent or mortgage was due, tens of millions of Americans kept receiving paychecks thanks to President Trump’s leadership.”

Coronavirus hospitalizations in California have increased 56% in the past two weeks while the number of confirmed cases has jumped 53%.

In Miami-Dade County, population 2.7 million, Mayor Carlos Gimenez ordered the closing of restaurants to indoor dining and certain other indoor places, including vacation rentals, seven weeks after they were allowed to reopen. Gimenez had initially said that restaurants

would be closed to all dining but in a statement Monday evening the mayor said that after meeting with medical experts and a restaurant industry group that his emergency order “will allow for outdoor dining, where possible, to continue with restrictions.” Beaches will reopen on Tuesday after being closed over the weekend.

“But if we see crowding and people not following the public health rules, I will be forced

White woman charged after racist Central Park confrontation

NEW YORK (AP)—A white woman who called the police during a videotaped dispute with a Black man over her walking her dog without a leash in Central Park was charged Monday with filing a false police report.

In May, Amy Cooper drew widespread condemnation and was fired from her job after frantically calling 911 to claim she was being threatened by “an African American man,” bird watcher Christian Cooper. On the video he recorded of the woman, he sounds calm and appears to keep a safe distance from her.

District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. said in a statement on Monday that his office had charged Amy Cooper with falsely reporting the confrontation, a misdemeanor that carries a maximum penalty of a year behind bars. She was ordered to appear in court on Oct. 14.

Cooper’s attorney, Robert Barnes, said Cooper would

fight the charge. His client, he said, has already lost her livelihood and “her public life. Now some demand her freedom?”

Reached by phone on Monday, Christian Cooper said he had no reaction or comment.

After the backlash, Amy Cooper released an apology through a public relations service, saying she “reacted emotionally and made false assumptions about his intentions.”

“He had every right to request that I leash my dog in an area where it was required,” she said in the written statement. “I am well aware of the pain that misassumptions and insensitive statements about race cause and would never have imagined that I would be involved in the type of incident that occurred with Chris.” Amy Cooper’s 911 call was seen by many as a stark example of everyday racism and fueled outrage in the period leading up to the street

to close the beaches again,” the mayor warned.

Hospitalizations across the state have been ticking upward, with nearly 1,700 patients admitted in the past seven days compared with 1,200 the previous week. Five hospitals in the St. Petersburg area were out of intensive care unit beds, officials said. Miami’s Baptist Hospital had only four of its 88 ICU beds available.

“If we continue to increase at the pace we have been, we won’t have enough ventilators, enough rooms,” said Dr. David De La Zerda, ICU medical director and pulmonologist at Miami’s Jackson Memorial Hospital.

Officials in Texas also reported hospitals are in danger of being overwhelmed. Hospitalizations statewide surged past 8,000 for the first time over the weekend, a more than fourfold increase in the past month. Houston officials said intensive care units there have exceeded capacity.

Along the border with Mexico, two severely ill patients were flown hundreds of miles north to Dallas and San Antonio because hospitals in the Rio Grande Valley were full.

In Arizona, the number of people hospitalized with COVID-19 topped 3,200, a new high, and hospitals statewide were at 89% capacity. Confirmed cases surpassed 100,000, and more than half of those infected, or over 62,000, are under 44 years old, state health officials said.

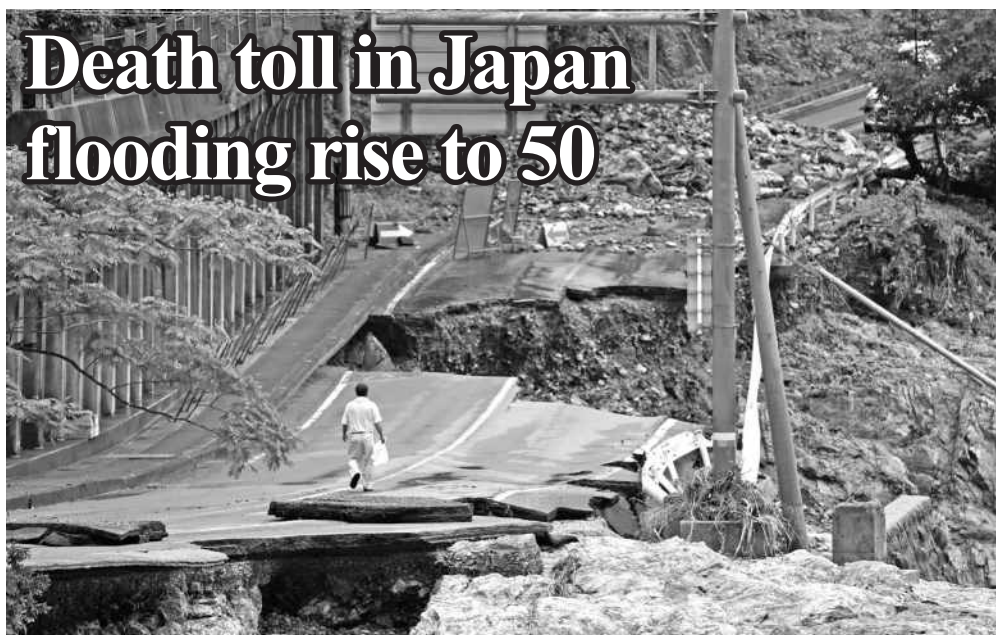
protests sparked by the police custody death of George Floyd. It also inspired New York state lawmakers in June to pass a law that makes it easier under civil rights law to sue an individual who calls a police officer on someone “without reason” because of their background, including race and national origin.

The new law, which the governor also signed last month, holds an individual who makes such 911 calls liable “for injunctive relief, damages, or any other appropriate relief” in a civil lawsuit. Cooper was charged under an existing false-report law that’s been long on the books and doesn’t reference race.

The confrontation began early one morning when Christian Cooper said he noticed Amy Cooper had let her cocker spaniel off its leash against the rules in the Ramble, a secluded section of Central Park popular with birdwatchers.

Asia

Death toll in Japan flooding rise to 50



AP

A man walks on heavily damaged road following a heavy rain in Kumamuro, Kumamoto prefecture, southern Japan Monday, July 6, 2020.

TOKYO (AP)—Soldiers rescued residents on boats as floodwaters flowed down streets in southern Japanese towns hit by deadly rains that were expanding across the region Tuesday. At least 50 people have died and a dozen are missing.

Pounding rain since late Friday in Japan's southern region of Kyushu has triggered widespread flooding. More rain was predicted in Kyushu and the western half of Japan's main island as the rain front moved east.

In Fukuoka, on the northern part of the island, three soldiers waded through knee-high water pulling a boat carrying a mother, her 2-month-old baby and two other residents.

"Good job!" one of the soldiers said as he held up the baby to his chest while the mother got off the boat, Asahi

video footage showed. Several children wearing orange life vests over their wet T-shirts arrived on another boat.

An older woman told NHK television she started walking down the road to evacuate, but floodwater rose quickly up to her neck. Another woman said, "I was almost washed away and had to grab an electrical pole."

The Fire and Disaster Management Agency said 49 victims were from riverside towns in the Kumamoto prefecture. Another of the dead confirmed as of Tuesday morning was a woman in her 80s found inside her flooded home in another prefecture.

About 3 million residents were advised to evacuate across Kyushu, Japan's third-largest island.

Tens of thousands of army troops, police and other res-

cue workers mobilized from around the country worked their way through mud and debris in the hardest-hit riverside towns along the Kuma River. Rescue operations have been hampered by the floodwater and continuing harsh weather.

In Kuma village in the hardest-hit Kumamoto prefecture, dozens of residents took shelter at a park. The roofed structure had no walls or floor and they sat on blue tarps spread on the dirt ground, with no partitions. The village office's electricity and communications had been cut.

Among the victims were 14 residents of a nursing home next to the Kuma River, known as the "raging river" because it is joined by another river just upstream and is prone to flooding. Its embankment fell, letting water gush into the nursing home.

India bans TikTok, other Chinese apps amid border standoff

NEW DELHI (AP)—Indian TikTok users awoke Tuesday to a notice from the popular short-video app saying the company was working to comply with an India government ban on dozens of Chinese apps amid a military standoff between the two countries.

While service in India was suspended, the ban was largely symbolic since the apps can't be automatically erased from devices where they've already been downloaded. The move was a response to a border clash with China where 20 Indian soldiers died earlier this month, digital experts said.

"They want to send a message. This is a decision based on a geopolitical situation," said digital rights activist Nikhil Pahwa.

Indian protesters have been calling for a boycott of Chinese goods since the June 15 confrontation in the remote Karakoram mountain border region.

Late Monday, the government said that it was banning 59 Chinese-owned apps, including TikTok, which is operated by Chinese internet firm ByteDance. It cited privacy concerns that it said pose a threat to India's sovereignty and security.

The banned apps include some that enable TikTok users to add visual effects and music to their posts, as well as dating apps, privacy apps and multiplayer games.

India's information technology ministry issued a statement saying it had received reports that mobile apps were "stealing and surreptitiously transmitting users' data."

The compilation of such data, and its mining and profiling by elements hostile to India is "a matter of very deep and immediate concern which requires emergency measures," the statement said.

TikTok's countermove, shifting data to Ireland, shows

how integrated the two economies have become. Chinese products are ubiquitous in India, from toys to smartphones to Made-in-China Hindu idols. Two-way trade grew from \$3 billion in 2000 to \$95 billion in 2018, according to Indian government data, with the balance strongly favoring China.

"There is too much of Chinese presence in the everyday life of the average Indian," said Alka Acharya, professor of Chinese Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi. The soldiers' deaths meant the Indian government had to hit back, Acharya said.

The ban on Chinese apps, signed by India's powerful Home Minister Amit Shah, asked phone companies to begin blocking the applications Tuesday, as top Army officers from India and China were set to meet for a third time to try to quell tensions and rein back on military build-ups in the disputed border area.

World

AMID PANDEMIC

First major Brazilian cities resume classes

DUQUE DE CAXIAS, Brazil (AP)—The Brazilian cities of Manaus in the Amazon rainforest and Duque de Caxias in Rio de Janeiro's metropolitan region on Monday resumed in-person classes at private schools, the first large cities to do so since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Both cities have been hard hit by the virus. Amazonas state's capital with 2.2 million residents had the sixth-most coronavirus deaths in the country, according to local media G1. Duque de Caxias is home to 920,000 people and has confirmed the third most deaths in Rio state.

The cities' private schools received authorization to reopen from Amazonas state's governor and Duque de Caxias' mayor, according to the nation's private school federation, Fenep.

Public schools in the two cities, as elsewhere, have yet

to reopen.

Brazilian teachers during the outbreak have resorted to sending kids lessons through social media and phone apps, and even television and radio broadcasts. Restrictions put in place to contain the virus' spread are being lifted in varying degrees from city to city, marking a disorderly exit from quarantine.

President Jair Bolsonaro has pushed for economies to kick into gear, often over objections from public health experts who argue infection rates remain high. Many people, likewise, are eager to get back to work.

"We saw the need, the parents requested it; they were going back to the labor market," said Maria Agostinho, 55, who directs the Happy Little Bear, a daycare, nursery school and pre-school in Duque de Caxias.

The school tested all teach-

ers for COVID-19, and on Monday made hand sanitizer available at the school's entrance and took the temperatures of all its kids. They wear masks and must keep their distance from one another.

"Knowing the commitment we have, they (the parents) requested, begged until we came back to work," Agostinho said.

Some teachers in Duque de Caxias oppose their return. Eduardo dos Santos, 50, president of the local teachers' union, said it goes against global and local health experts' recommendations and that teachers aren't trained in virus safety measures.

"Many school owners feel pressured by parents who need to work, and we understand," dos Santos said. Still, school owners and teachers should discuss "to program an adequate, balanced restart to preserve lives."

UN chief warns COVID-19 provides opportunity for terrorists

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned Monday that the COVID-19 pandemic provides new opportunities for the Islamic State extremist group, al-Qaida and their affiliates as well as neo-Nazis, white supremacists and hate groups.

The U.N. chief said it's too early to fully assess the implications of the coronavirus pandemic on terrorism, but all these groups seek to exploit divisions, local conflicts, failures in governing, and other grievances to advance their aims.

Guterres told the launch of United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week that the Islamic State group, which once controlled a vast swath of Syria and Iraq, is trying to reassert itself in both countries, "while thousands of foreign terrorist fighters battle in the region."

"The pandemic has also highlighted vulnerabilities to new and emerging forms of terrorism, such as misuse of digital technology, cyber attacks and bio-terrorism," he said.

Josep Borrell, the European Union's top diplomat, told the virtual meeting that a global understanding of the pandemic's implications

on counter-terrorism efforts across the world is needed.

"It is true that, in some places, the crisis has led to a reduction of terrorist activity, mainly due to the mobilization of state security services," he said. "But in other regions, terrorism and human suffering caused by it continue unabated."

Former American diplomat Richard Haas, who heads the Council on Foreign Relations, said he believes COVID-19 "will add to the challenges of counter-terrorism."

"It will perhaps create an environment where more countries become weak or fail," he said, and recruitment for terrorist organizations will quite possibly go up.

Tunisia's U.N. Ambassador Kais Kabtani, who chairs the U.N. Security Council's counter-terrorism committee, said its recent report on COVID-19 described how the pandemic may have temporarily limited operations of terrorist groups because of lockdowns and travel restrictions—but also how groups including the Islamic State are exploiting increased social isolation and online use "to spread their propaganda through virtual platforms."

With global attention focused on tackling the pan-

demic, Kabtani said, terrorist groups are also seeking to capitalize "by undermining state authority and launching new attacks."

The report by the committee's executive directorate said the global population, including over 1 billion students, is spending more time on the internet as a result of COVID-19.

"The increase in the number of young people engaging in unsupervised Internet usage — particularly on gaming platforms — offers terrorist groups an opportunity to expose a greater number of people to their ideas, although the relationship between online activity and radicalization to violence is not fully understood," the experts' report said. "The reported rise in cyber crime could also lead to increased connectivity between terrorist and criminal actors."

The U.N. experts said a wide variety of terrorist groups have already integrated COVID-19 into their propaganda "to exploit divisions and weaknesses among their enemies" including by intensifying hatred for certain groups, "resulting in racist, anti-Semitic, Islamophobic and anti-immigrant hate speech."

Good Housekeeping

How to make super-tasty, adorably tiny open-faced sandwiches

By BETHANY JEAN CLEMENT
THE SEATTLE TIMES

Many an article about sandwiches begins with ye tired olde origin story: The Earl of Sandwich, desirous of a snack easily and ungreasily handled whilst he continued to play cards, demanded his joint of meat or giant drumstick or what have you be ensconced between two slices of bread, and so forth. The Earl's idea, born though it was of laziness and/or addiction to gambling, was an excellent one. Sandwiches are very good! It is difficult to imagine improving upon the Platonic ideal of a food-form that is the sandwich!

Or is it? I come to you today with a radical proposition: This is the time for open-faced sandwiches. Why now? In an era when bread and/or yeast has sometimes been hard to come by, an open-faced sandwich reduces bread use by 50%. Further, an open-faced sandwich represents a dramatic improvement on the traditional closed-faced sandwich's filling-to-bread ratio (as eaters of peanut-butter-and-honey toast are already highly aware). And given an open-faced sandwich constructed with a not-too-floppy bread base, a skilled sandwich-eater can absolutely continue playing cards or doing whatever they care to with the other hand.

A version of the open-faced sandwich did manage to capture the fickle American interest with the momentarily ubiquitous and unfairly vilified avocado toast. Avocado toast is good! But what's even better: tiny open-faced sandwiches, or T.O.F.S. Versions of T.O.F.S. have gained traction here as imports from other cultures, though mostly on toasted bread, e.g., crostini and tartines. What we're talking about here is like the more-seldom-seen Danish smørrebrød, in its smaller formats, or the obložené chlebíčky of the Czech Republic. These adorable little open-faced sandwiches, built on the likes of a slice of an undersized loaf of rye or a diagonal of good



A window seat at La Dive shows off the cocktail shrimp open-faced sandwiches that are popular along with the Chlodnik at right—chilled beet poup with kefir.

STEVEIRINGMAN/THESEATTLETIMES/TNS

baguette, make larger open-faced sandwiches look out of scale and oafish.

With T.O.F.S., the laborious bite-taking of a traditionally sized sandwich is exponentially reduced or even potentially eliminated, depending on their size. T.O.F.S. also offer the opportunity to engulf several types of sandwich in one sitting, rather than just the tedium of one. And while regular-sized sandwiches, whether open-faced or lidded, are generally speedily assembled, T.O.F.S. provide both a fun project and a festive eating experience during times of boredom, as well as many opportunities for aesthetic expression and nice photos for Instagram.

What goes on T.O.F.S.? This is limited only by how many different kinds of food exist and the strength of your imagination. It is never a bad idea to start T.O.F.S. with a layer of nice-quality softened butter. From there, just the

beginning of the possibilities for layers of toppings include mayonnaise (yes, atop the butter), mustard (same), cream cheese, herbed ricotta, other cheese, ham, roast beef, cornichon/pickles, slices of hard-boiled egg, sardines/other tinned fish, salmon in any form, any type of caviar, potato salad, tuna salad, tuna-and-potato salad, radish, apple, tomato, olives, capers, chives, dill, parsley, basil, pesto ... A suite of around six ingredients may be combined in so many pleasing configurations! Slice your toppings thinly, then take your time and arrange them so they look very pretty, like old-timey canapés, which, hey, they pretty much are.

One Seattle chef who's exceptionally adept at T.O.F.S. is David Gurewitz of new-ish La Dive on Capitol Hill. His résumé includes Lark, Spinasse, Mamnoon, Little Uncle, Chicago's Blackbird and Michelin-starred Guy Savoy in Paris, and he set up

the very good bar food at local Standard Brewing, too. Having grown up in Minneapolis in a Jewish household, with grandparents from Belarus, Lithuania and Poland, he loves the food and drink traditions of Eastern Europe, so alongside the extremely tasty dumplings on La Dive's menu came some really lovely T.O.F.S. One of his interesting and exceptionally well-built initial combinations: Olympic Provisions kielbasa with slices of cucumber, strips of onion, a confetti of chopped chive and dots of horseradish dyed bright pink with beet juice, just for added prettiness. Another: split pea hummus, miso, walnut, pickled beet and dill.

Asked now to help us end the tyranny of the unnecessary upper slice of bread in the cutest, most fun and maximally delicious way, Gurewitz sent the recipes below. Onward, topless!

DAVID GUREWITZ'S
SHRIMP AND DEVEILED
EGG SMØRREBRØD

Makes 4 smørrebrød

"Traditionally, these are eaten with a fork and knife, but I've been known to forego cutlery like a brute, and I think it's convenient to be able to pick them up if they, say, accompany a beverage. And note: A slice of ripe tomato makes an excellent addition or a great substitution for the shrimp as a vegetarian option."—David Gurewitz

4 eggs, hard-boiled
1/2 teaspoon Colman's mustard powder
1/4 teaspoon turmeric
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon water
2 tablespoons mayonnaise
4 slices bread (preferably dark rye, but anything you've got will work great)

Butter, softened (it's traditional to use salted butter, so add a pinch of salt if yours is unsalted)

Lemon zest

Cocktail shrimp, or any cooked shrimp, shelled and chilled

Watercress (or dill or chives)

Freshly cracked black pepper

1. Split the hard-boiled eggs in half lengthwise and carefully scoop the yolks into a bowl, reserving the whites. Mash the yolks with a fork.

2. In a separate bowl, combine the mustard powder, turmeric, salt and water. Stir to mix evenly and rehydrate the mustard powder. Add the mayonnaise, and mix well.

3. Combine the seasoned mayonnaise with the mashed yolks, and mix and mash until the resulting filling is as smooth as you prefer. Spoon or pipe the yolk filling back into the whites, and set aside.

4. Smear butter on the bread as generously as you dare—there's a Danish term for spreading the butter thickly enough that you can see your teeth marks when you bite it. Top each buttered bread with two halves of deviled egg, and season each with a generous twist of black pepper and a few wisps of grated lemon zest. Top each egg with shrimp, taking care not to fully obstruct the beautiful bright-yellow yolk. Add as many shrimp as you wish—the main thing is to not appear chintzy. Some say you shouldn't be able to see the bread under the toppings, but do whatever makes you happy. Anyway, add a few sprigs of watercress (or dill or chives), marvel at how delightful your smørrebrød are and eat!

How to Build a Herring Smørrebrød

"Perfect in its simplicity and a great start to any smørrebrød feast. Optional additions may include a dollop of sour cream or some chopped herbs, like chives or dill. And a shot of frozen vodka or aquavit."—David Gurewitz

1 slice dark rye, spread thick with salted butter

1 fillet herring, either pickled or in oil, cut into 2-inch lengths

1/4-inch slice of red or white onion

1. Place 1 or 2 pieces of herring on bread, and top each with a slice of onion.

Study uncovers most effective non-medical face mask for protecting against coronavirus

By LAUREN THEISEN
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

A study conducted by researchers at Florida Atlantic University has found that the best type of non-medical face mask to protect against coronavirus is a stitched mask made from two layers of quilt-

ing fabric.

With mask-wearing mandatory or at least encouraged in many areas to slow the spread of the virus, many Americans have taken to making DIY masks or buying low-cost ones from the store. While none of these masks reach the level of effectiveness that

medical-grade masks and respirators do, some of them are still better than others.

In the study, researchers used a mannequin head, a manual pump, and a smoke generator to approximate a human sneeze. Then, they mapped the paths of droplets to see how they were altered

by various kinds of masks.

According to the study, droplets from an uncovered cough could travel over 8 feet. But with various kinds of masks, that distance was much more limited. Here's how each type stacked up against each other.

■ Stitched-quilting fabric

mask: 2.5 inches

■ Cone-style mask: 8 inches

■ Folded cotton handkerchief: 1.25 feet

■ Bandana: 3 feet

This data helps explain why organizations like the WHO and the CDC recommend masks in settings where social

distancing is not possible. The WHO also says that mask-users should make sure it's not too loose and that it covers both the mouth and nose. Additionally, wearers should keep them in a clean bag if they plan to reuse them, and wash them daily with soap and water.

Life & Style

Tell-all book by Trump niece to be released next week

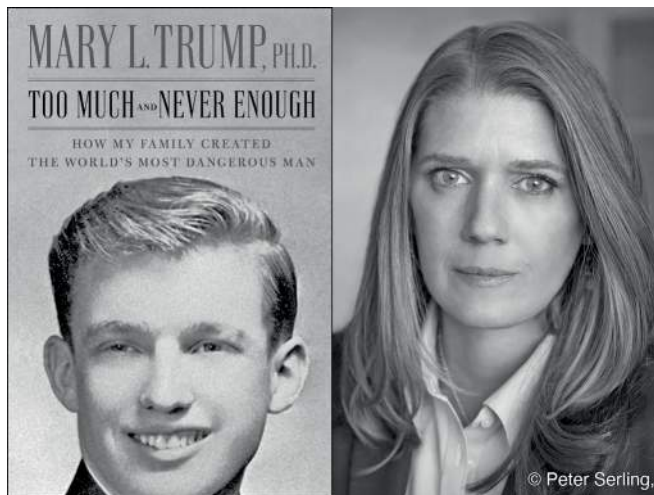
NEW YORK (AP)—A tell-all book by President Donald Trump's niece that has been the subject of a legal battle will be released next week.

Publisher Simon & Schuster cited "high interest and extraordinary interest" in the book by Mary Trump titled "Too Much and Never Enough: How My Family Created the World's Most Dangerous Man." The book was originally set for release on July 28, but will now arrive on July 14.

The revised date, announced Monday, came after a New York appellate court cleared the way for the book's publication following a legal challenge by Trump's brother.

The White House did not respond immediately to a request for comment on the release date change.

Robert Trump had sued



This combination photo shows the cover art for "Too Much and Never Enough: How My Family Created the World's Most Dangerous Man", left, and a portrait of author Mary L. Trump, Ph.D. **AP**

Mary Trump to block publication of a book promoted to contain an "insider's perspective" of "countless holiday meals," "family interactions"

and "family events."

A judge last week left in place a restraint that blocked Mary Trump and any agent of hers from distributing the

book, but the court made clear it was not considering Simon & Schuster to be covered by the ruling. The publisher has said that 75,000 first-run editions had already been sent to bookstores.

Mary Trump is the daughter of Fred Trump Jr., the president's elder brother, who died in 1981. She has a doctorate in psychology.

"Mary L. Trump has the education, insight, and intimate familiarity needed to reveal what makes Donald, and the rest of her clan, tick," a release about the book said.

The book is expected to include a number of allegations about President Trump, including how his upbringing led to his worldview and the derision he showed his father after he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

Kaepernick, ESPN team up for documentary series on his life

Colin Kaepernick will be featured in a documentary series produced by ESPN Films as part of a first-look deal with The Walt Disney Co.

The deal between Kaepernick's production arm, Ra Vision Media, and The Walt Disney Co. was announced Monday. The partnership will focus on telling scripted and unscripted stories that explore race, social injustice and the quest for equity. It also will provide a platform to showcase the work of directors and producers of color.

"I am excited to announce this historic partnership with Disney across all of its platforms to elevate Black and Brown directors, creators, sto-

rytellers, and producers, and to inspire the youth with compelling and authentic perspectives," Kaepernick said in a statement. "I look forward to sharing the docuseries on my life story, in addition to many other culturally impactful projects we are developing."

Despite being exiled from the NFL since the 2016 season when he took a knee during the national anthem to protest police brutality and racial inequality, Kaepernick still wants to play.

A person close to the former San Francisco 49ers quarterback told The Associated Press that Kaepernick is in excellent shape and ready to play but hasn't received any calls. **(AP)**

Dana Canedy named as publisher at Simon & Schuster

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Dana Canedy will take on one of the biggest roles at Simon & Schuster.



Canedy

The New York-based publishing house announced Monday that Canedy has been named as senior vice president and publisher of the imprint—the first African American to hold the position. The Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist will begin her new role on July 27.

"I look forward to leading the storied Simon & Schuster flagship imprint, a publishing powerhouse that has long produced some

of the most important and impactful books in our culture," Canedy said in a statement.

Canedy will succeed Jonathan Karp, who was elevated to president and CEO in May. His appointment came after the death of Carolyn Reidy.

"I am confident that as our new publisher, Dana can deepen our strengths while expanding our field of vision, combining broad editorial expertise with hands-on management skill and the proven ability to effect strategic change," Karp said in a statement.

Denise Richards details return to set on 'Bold' amid virus

LOS ANGELES (AP)—When Denise Richards returned to the set of CBS' "The Bold and the Beautiful" last week after the pandemic shutdown filming for three months, a detailed, specific plan was in place to keep everyone safe.

The soap opera is under a microscope, as one of the first U.S. productions to resume after COVID-19 outbreak that stopped production throughout the TV and movie industry out of safety concerns. Other studios and soap operas are

working on restart plans. In the UK, the soap "Emmerdale" resumed filming last month.

Richards wasn't anxious or worried about returning to work. Instead, she felt "very excited," she said in an interview with The Associated Press.

"It's important to move forward and move on. And we have to get back to work," she said.

Bradley Bell, the show's executive producer, devised a plan with the help of the studio to create a safe working environment.

Movie composer Ennio Morricone dead at 91

ROME (AP)—Ennio Morricone, the Oscar-winning Italian composer who created the coyote-howl theme for the iconic Spaghetti Western "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly" and often haunting soundtracks for such classic

Hollywood gangster movies as "The Untouchables" and the epic "Once Upon A Time In America," died Monday. He was 91.

Morricone's longtime lawyer, Giorgio Assumma, said "the Maestro," as he was

known, died in a Rome hospital of complications following surgery after a recent fall in which he broke a leg bone.

Outside the hospital, Assumma read a farewell message from Morricone.

"I am Ennio Morricone,

and I am dead," began the message. In the greeting, the composer went on to explain that the only reason he was saying goodbye this way and had requested a private funeral was: "I don't want to bother anyone."

Heartbreak awaits sons when dad is released from prison

DEAR ABBY: Three years ago, I found out my husband had sexually abused one of his nieces. He took a lie detector test, failed it and confessed. Learning the truth was devastating, and I felt like a fool for having believed him.

We have two children together, both teenaged boys. I had to give my boys the bad news about what their father had done and the reason I could no longer be with him. He had to move out because he was restricted from being with minors. There were so many changes.

Then came the news that their father was arrested and sentenced to six years in prison. I was emotionally drained. I have always been honest with my boys and have never kept anything from them. Because I've had to give them so much bad news, I have tried my best to give them the happiest times that I could. Soon after, he was sent away.

I received word that when he gets out, he will be deported to Mexico. This is something I haven't told my boys yet. They are talking about having a life with their father. When he gets out, they will both be adults. My youngest talks about living with him. When they find out, they will be heartbroken.

They have been doing so well. We've come a long way, and we're finally in a happy place. I don't know how or when to tell them. Should I do it now or wait until closer to his release date? I'm just over the sadness.

EMOTIONALLY DRAINED

DEAR EMOTIONALLY DRAINED: Hang onto your happiness because you deserve all of it that is coming your way. You and your sons have been put through an ordeal not of your making. I see no reason to burden them further with this unhappy news until closer to the time of your husband's release. By then they will be older and better able to adjust to what it will mean if they choose to live with or spend time with their dad.

DEAR ABBY: I am an older woman who is not very attractive. I didn't inherit good looks. This bothers me because all my women friends are married or have been in relationships.

People say looks don't matter, but they are mistaken. The first thing someone sees is your face and physical presence. I keep myself neat and nicely groomed, but I'm not pretty. What do I do to lift myself from this depression? I'm ashamed of my face.

FACING IT IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR FACING IT: Everyone has strong points that make them unique. My mother used to say that the most effective cosmetic is a smile. You might have better luck if you focus less on what you think you don't have and start concentrating on what you DO have to offer.

Not everyone is a beauty contest winner, and they

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



manage to couple up and have healthy relationships with the opposite sex (and sometimes the same sex). Do you have a special talent, a pleasing personality or a good sense of humor? You appear to have a serious case of low self-esteem.

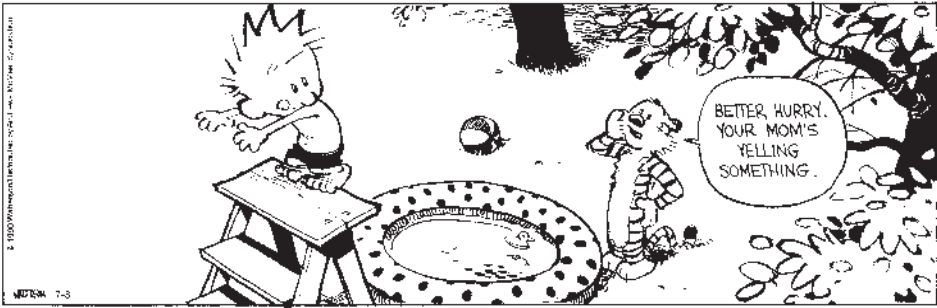
The solution to your problem might be as simple as widening your circle of acquaintances by getting involved in activities you enjoy. But before doing that, it might be in your interest to talk with a licensed mental health professional for help in becoming less critical of yourself.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

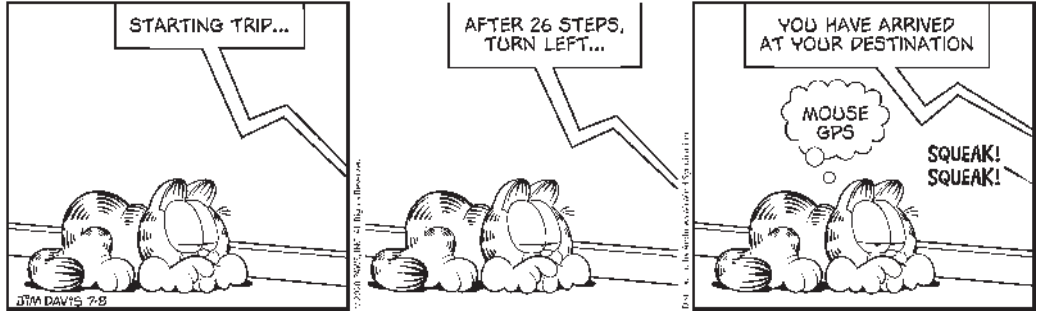
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



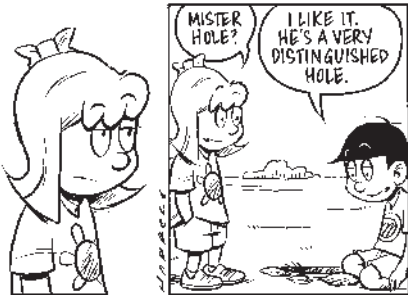
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 School support orgs.
5 String after E
8 Loyal
12 "Money — everything!"
13 Kanga's kid
14 Spanish greeting
15 Sweet snacks on sticks
17 Billions of years
18 Friend of Porthos
19 Like skim milk
21 Popped down
22 "A likely story!"
23 Do sum work?
26 Shriner's cap
28 Eagle's descent
31 Profound
33 Quarter-back Marino
35 Pesky email
36 Clinch

DOWN

38 Chest muscle
40 Fourth-yr. students
41 Historic Scott
43 Highland hat
45 Place of prayer
47 Swiss currency
51 Dove calls
52 Hotel personnel
54 Calendar entry (Abbr.)
55 Prefix with athlete
56 Latin 101 word
57 Disarray

38 Jazz combo instrument
59 Minus
10 Radius neighbor
11 Sunrise direction
16 Chanteuse Edith
20 Drs. that deliver
23 Billboards
24 Actress Ruby
25 Morning moisture
27 Microwave
29 Crew tool
30 Downing St. VIPs
32 Sticklers
34 "The Crown" provider
37 Corral
39 Astronomer Sagan
42 Unpaid bills
44 Taj —
45 Swindle
46 Great expectation
48 Alaskan city
49 Tax prep pros
50 Bygone fliers
53 Historic period

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 7-8

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sophia Bush, 38; Milo Ventimiglia, 43; Kevin Bacon, 62; Anjelica Huston, 69.

Happy Birthday: Look for opportunities, and you will find a way to get ahead. Turn any negative you encounter this year into something spectacular. Use your imagination, and you will develop a plan that allows you to use your skills, education and experience in ways you find exciting and entertaining. Keep up with the times, and adapt to lifestyle changes. Your numbers are 8, 11, 21, 27, 33, 39, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll have the courage to face situations you don't like, but before you get into a debate, make sure you have the facts and figures required to win your case. Go after what you feel passionate about, and you will succeed. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't waste time on the impossible or get involved in an emotional stalemate. Implement a change that will help you sidestep controversy and negativity and encourage you to do what's best for you. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Set your sights on what you want, and don't stop until you reach your goal. Brute force, along with preparation and discipline, will help you outmaneuver anyone who gets in your way. Personal gain is heading for you. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Turn a negative into a positive. When something doesn't go your way, change course and find a way to make things work. Be willing to put in the work, and you will reap the rewards. A

good deed trumps an angry message. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Reclaim something that belongs to you. Whether it's a possession, idea or your self-esteem you want, it's time to take control of your life and to refuse to settle for something that makes you feel like you've been taken advantage of or used. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): An emotional incident will lead to an overdue adjustment. Embrace a change and turn it into something you've wanted for some time. Discard what you don't need, and take care of what you want. Choose peace over discord. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take a back seat and observe. The information you gather will help you make an important decision regarding your relationships and lifestyle. Evaluate, and prepare to take physical action to encourage you to get what you want. Romance is featured. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put more into your home environment. The added comfort will lead to peace and tranquility. Investing time and money in yourself, as well as your surroundings and pursuits, will put you in a better position when dealing with outside influences. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep your emotions under control and your energy focused on improvements, not discord. You won't be disappointed if you keep your secrets to yourself. Call the shots instead of becoming someone's puppet. Strive for equality, love and personal happiness. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Put money matters first. You may need to alter the way you spend or handle personal issues. Don't wait until it's too late to make a move. Initiate change, and don't look back. Do what's best for you. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take the time to make an effort and improve your life personally, professionally and financially. The changes you make at home or to the way you handle loved ones will bring promising results. Physical activity will encourage a healthier lifestyle. ★★★★★

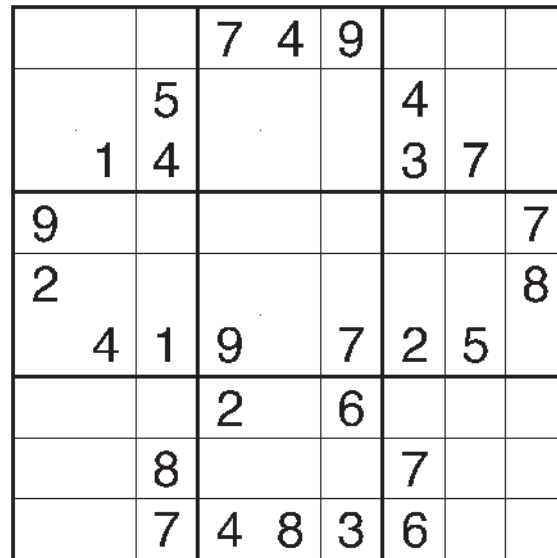
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Refuse to let a sentimental situation put you in a vulnerable position. Use your knowledge, experience and ability to see clearly to avoid getting stuck doing something you don't want to do. Know your limitations, and protect your assets. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are helpful, opportunistic and demanding. You are aggressive and systematic. Visit EugeniaLast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn. Copyright 2020 Andrews McMeel Syndication

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



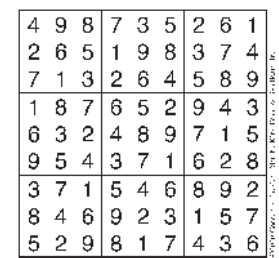
Difficulty Level ★★★★★

7/08

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

HITTING THE GOLF COURSE! Solution: 9 letters

S S F O R E Y B U N K E R R N
E T L A T S A O C E L O S A A
G R A C L L W D U S R D O P T
N O G B L A R O D P N O R H U
E K S B L S I O H U U O C H R
L E T M L E A M O E N T R S E
L S I E C F R I V A E T I O
A H C T A M G O E N I L S S P
H E K D C E B S R G G S T U L
C B D D L L I E N D W R U H A
R I S G I C U I R I E E C A Y
E R O N R V E B N S E L O H L
D D D E E E O G S S H A N K I
R I X S T A R T S O C I A L N
O E L B M A R C S S L O P E K

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Ace, Aiming, Apron, Ball, Birdie, Blind, Bunker, Caddle, Challenges, Clubs, Coastal, Divot, Dogleg, Dunes, Exercise, Fairway, Flagstick, Fore, Grounds, Healthy, Holes, Hook, Irons, Link, Match, Membership, Mood, Nature, Order, Par, Play, Putts, Score, Scramble, Shank, Slice, Slope, Social, Sole, Stableford, Starts, Stress, Strokes, Swing, Teeing, Visual

Yesterday's Answer: Local
Treasures 14, 15, 17, 18 and 21 through 39 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Bubble awaits: Teams set to start Disney arrivals



FLORIDA (AP)— After four months of waiting and planning, the NBA bubble is ready to be tested.

The first six teams—Brooklyn, Denver, Orlando, Phoenix, Utah and Washington—are scheduled to arrive Tuesday at the Disney complex. Another eight teams arrive Wednesday, the last eight arrive Thursday, and with that training camps will be on the cusp of beginning.

If the plan works, all teams will be at Disney for at least 5-1/2 weeks and some teams will be there for more than three months. And not everyone in the league has an abundance of optimism that the experiment—involving daily testing, separation from friends and family for weeks if not months, and strict regulations regarding just about everything imaginable at Disney—will be enough to complete the season.

“I’m not very confident,” New Orleans guard Brandon Ingram said. “But they’ve got us going ... so we’ll see.”

The process for arrivals will be streamlined—players and team staff will be immediately taken to the testing room at their Disney hotel after clearing security when arriving on the premises. They’ll receive a short briefing on the testing program and other matters, receive what will serve as their room key, then go through initial testing for both the coronavirus and the presence of antibodies. Virus testing will continue daily; the antibody testing is intended to be a one-time event at Disney.

In their rooms, a welcome kit including a thermometer, pulse oximeter and two optional items—a physical distancing sensor and an Oura Ring that tracks sleep and activity—will be awaiting players and staff, as will some personal protective equipment such as wipes to clean the exterior of their luggage.

“I think we’re on the right path, we’re on the right plan,” Houston general manager Daryl Morey said. “But I think every day there’s new information so ... I think if anyone’s certain about anything right now I think they’re making a mistake. I think we all have to intelligently continue to understand the risks, manage the risks versus the potential outcomes, and go from there.”

For some teams, the get-away comes not long after the reality of the virus struck yet again. Miami closed its facility late last week following positive test results, Milwaukee and Sacramento followed over the weekend after the same circumstance, and now seven of the 22 Disney-bound



In this Nov. 29, 2019 file photo, Orlando Magic's Aaron Gordon takes off for a shot against Toronto Raptors' Fred VanVleet, left, and Mark Gasol during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Florida.

teams have had to shutter their practice gyms.

All this, of course, comes with coronavirus numbers in Florida still rising and the percentage of positive test results simply overwhelming what the standards were a few weeks ago.

“As long as we try to (abide)

by the rules, I think that’s going to help get us through the season,” Pelicans guard Lonzo Ball said. “I can’t really tell you whether it’s going to work or not.”

And not every team is having its entire travel party arrive at once. Phoenix general manager James Jones said some Suns players will be arriving

separately, adding that some decisions have yet to be made.

“The initial adjustment will be tough,” Jones said. “The first five or six days—you’re talking about quarantine, trying to get acclimated to new surroundings, trying to figure out your flow and rhythm. But once the games start, they’re

every other day, I think the players will be fine. You play a game on Monday, you’re tired and recover on Tuesday, then you’re right back at it on Wednesday.”

And there are some teams, including Washington, that are still apparently figuring out who will go. Wizards coach

Scott Brooks said Monday that the team is still waiting for a final decision on guard Bradley Beal, who has indicated that he is weighing whether participating in the restart would be his best move.

“No final decision,” Brooks said. “We’re all still day by day and he’s looking great. ... We hope that everybody goes down there.”

The Wednesday arrivals are scheduled to include Boston, Dallas, the Los Angeles Clippers, Memphis, Miami, New Orleans, Oklahoma City and Sacramento. On Thursday, Houston, Indiana, the Los Angeles Lakers, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, Portland, San Antonio and Toronto make their way into the bubble.

Spurs forward Rudy Gay has a son who happens to be a big Disney fan, and wanted to know why the family didn’t take its traditional Disney vacation this year. Gay hasn’t had the heart yet to tell him that he’s headed to Disney for several weeks, and was asked Monday if he has a special souvenir in mind to bring home.

“A healthy father,” Gay said. “A corona-free father, hopefully.”

Howard to rejoin Lakers, will donate salary

Dwight Howard confirmed his plans to join his Lakers teammates in Orlando, Fla., saying Monday during an appearance on CNN that he planned to donate his salary for the rest of the season to a charity called Breathe Again.

Howard had been at his Atlanta-area home during the break, but was following the league’s testing protocols remotely. His teammates expected that he would join them, but Howard was concerned about both promoting social justice issues and spending time with his children. The mother of his 6-year-old son died suddenly because of complications from epilepsy in March.

The Lakers had been in constant communication with Howard from general manager Rob Pelinka to various players.

“We have been working very closely—and I’ve been in contact with Dwight often and his agent,” Pelinka said on June 30. “As you guys know, there was an opt-out date that Dwight did not give notice that he was opting out. So we are going to continue to work through those extenuating circumstances with Dwight, support him, support his 6-year-old son and hope for the best that he would be a part of our roster in Orlando. But that will be a continued process.”

PGA Tour scraps plans to have fans at Memorial



OHIO (AP)— The PGA Tour and the Memorial scrapped state-approved plans to have limited spectators next week because of what it described as rapidly changing dynamics of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Memorial, hosted by Jack Nicklaus at his Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin was in line to be the first tournament with spectators since golf resumed its schedule on June 11 in Texas.

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine, a Republican, last month approved a plan that would allow the Memorial to have 20% capacity on property, which would include fans, private hospitality areas and essential staff to run the tournament.

“But given the broader challenges communities are

facing due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we need to stay focused on the No. 1 priority for our ‘Return to Golf’—the health and safety of all involved,” PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan said in a statement Monday.

The absence of spectators also means the tournament will not have a pro-am.

Muirfield Village this week is holding the Workday Charity Open, a one-time event that replaces the John Deere Classic, which officials chose to cancel this year and bring back in 2021. No spectators were to be allowed this week.

It’s the first time since 1957 a course has held different PGA Tour events in consecutive weeks.

The 157-man field this week includes Brooks Koepka, Justin Thomas, Jon Rahm and Patrick Cantlay.

The Memorial has special status and features only a 120-man field. Tiger Woods, who has not played competitively since the pandemic shut down golf, is a five-time champion at the Memorial.

“We had a good plan in place, and I could not be more proud of everyone who contributed to it,” Nicklaus said. “In the end, we have the responsibility to recognize the health and safety of the players and all who attend the Memorial Tournament.”

The 3M Open outside Minneapolis on July 23-26 already has said it would not have spectators, while the PGA Championship in San Francisco is being played Aug. 6-9 without fans. That leaves the World Golf Championships event in Memphis, Tennessee, on July 30 as the next opportunity for golf to

have fans on the course.

Meanwhile, Bryson DeChambeau has played each of the first four events upon the PGA Tour’s return to competition, and each week has progressed in the Official World Golf Ranking.

With his victory Sunday at the Rocket Mortgage Classic, DeChambeau bumped up three spots, to No. 7.

Even before the Tour’s hiatus because of the COVID-19 pandemic, DeChambeau was making marked improvements in the ranking. Thanks to three consecutive top-5 finishes, DeChambeau moved from 18th to 13th. And then came the 91-day break, and an OWGR freeze.

Since the resumption of play, it’s been continued success as he looks to improve upon a career best of fifth in the world.

Chiefs, Mahomes agree to 10-year, \$503M extension



MISSOURI (AP)—The Kansas City Chiefs made sure they'll have Super Bowl MVP Patrick Mahomes around as long as possible.

Mahomes agreed to a 10-year extension worth up to \$503 million, according to his agency, Steinberg Sports. The deal is worth \$477 million in guarantee mechanisms and includes a no-trade clause and opt-out clauses if guarantee mechanisms aren't met.

It's the richest contract in professional sports history, surpassing Mike Trout's \$426.5 million deal with the Los Angeles Angels.

"Since he joined the Chiefs just a few years ago, Patrick has developed into one of the most prolific athletes in all of sports," Chiefs chairman Clark Hunt said in a statement about the quarterback who led them to their first championship in 50 years.

"With his dynamic play and infectious personality, he is one of the most recognized and beloved figures to put on the Chiefs uniform. He's an extraordinary leader and a credit to the Kansas City community, and I'm delighted that he will be a member of the Chiefs for many years to come."

The Chiefs had the 2018 NFL MVP under contract for the next two seasons but that wasn't nearly enough.

"Here to stay," Mahomes wrote on Twitter.

The contract extension starts in 2022 when the NFL salary cap is projected to be \$227.5 million. However, that number could be lower depending on revenue losses due to the coronavirus pandemic and the possibility any games played this season won't have fans.

Still, Mahomes will take up a big chunk of Kansas City's cap space, around 20 percent depending on the annual contract breakdown and final cap numbers. That could potentially make it difficult for the Chiefs to pay several star play-

ers big contracts.

The Chiefs already had picked up their fifth-year option in April on Mahomes, who had been due to make \$825,000 on the final year of his rookie contract this season, to keep him around at least through 2021. General manager Brett Veach said this deal has been a priority for quite a while and thanked Mahomes' agents, Chris Cabott and Leigh Steinberg.

"His abilities are so rare, and to couple that with an incredible personality is outstanding," Veach said of Mahomes. "We're going to continue to do everything we can to surround him with talent, and this deal provides us more flexibility to do that. He's obviously an integral part to our success and we're thrilled he's going to be the quarterback of the Kansas City Chiefs for a long time."

Mahomes threw touchdown passes on consecutive fourth-quarter drives in rallying the Chiefs to their first Super Bowl title in 50 years and the first for coach Andy Reid. That comeback performance earned Mahomes the Super Bowl MVP award and only cemented his status as the face of the Kansas City franchise.

Reid said the best part is that Mahomes is still early in his career. Mahomes won't turn 25 until Sept. 17.

"He's a natural leader and always grinding, whether that's on the field, in the weight room or watching film, he wants to be the best," Reid said. "He's a competitor and his teammates feed off his energy. He makes us all better as an organization and we are blessed he's going to be our quarterback for years to come."

The Chiefs traded up to select Mahomes 10th overall in the 2017 draft, and he spent one season learning the ropes under Alex Smith before getting the starting job.

Mahomes proceeded to shatter just about every franchise passing record while winning the league MVP



In this Feb. 2, 2020 file photo, Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes celebrates after leading his team to score a touchdown against the San Francisco 49ers during the NFL Super Bowl 54 in Miami Gardens, Fla.

award, and he had the Chiefs within overtime of landing in the Super Bowl that season. He also was The Associated Press NFL Offensive Player of

the Year.

He dealt with numerous injuries this past season, including a dislocated kneecap on a seemingly innocent

quarterback sneak that left him sidelined for a couple of games. He came back to lead the Chiefs to a long winning streak that culminated with a

series of come-from-behind wins in the playoffs, including their second-half rally in the Super Bowl.

He is 24-7 as a starter, completing 65.9% of his passes with 76 touchdowns and only 18 interceptions. Mahomes is 724 of 1,099 for 9,412 yards passing, averaging 303.6 yards per game with a 108.9 career quarterback rating. He also has run 110 times for 500 yards with four TDs.

He has led the Chiefs to back-to-back AFC championship games. In the postseason, Mahomes is 115 of 184 for 1,474 yards with 13 TDs and only two interceptions with a 106.6 rating.

Long-term contracts

Not many players have received contracts of 10 years or more. Patrick Mahomes has.

Contract details have been announced and both the amount of money and the number of years will rank among the highest and longest deals in NFL history.

The following are players who got 10-plus years contract.

Donovan McNabb signed a 12-year deal with the Eagles in 2002 that had a maximum value of \$115 million; Brett Favre signed what was termed a "lifetime contract" in 2001 when he agreed to a 10-year, \$100 million deal with the Packers in 2001; Drew Bledsoe received a 10-year, \$103 million deal with the Patriots in 2001; Michael Vick signed a 10-year, \$130 million contract extension with the Falcons on Christmas Eve 2004; Daunte Culpepper signed a 10-year, \$102 million contract extension that included \$16 million in guarantees with the Vikings before the 2003 season.

The stories announcing the long-term contracts for those quarterbacks all point to the player finishing his career with the team that gave him the big deal. It didn't work out that way. All five quarterbacks finished their careers elsewhere.

MIAMI—The ATP announced a revised system for calculating the men's tennis world rankings when the coronavirus disrupted season resumes in August.

Rather than the current system based on a player's "best 18" results over a 52-week period, the temporary revisions will see the rankings cover a 22-month period from March 2019-December 2020.

The tour said in a statement that the system is designed to provide fairness to players across all levels of the game in parallel with the condensed number of points available after multiple tournament cancellations, the

ATP revises rankings calculations for virus-hit tour

tour said in a statement.

In addition, it should provide stability for players who cannot or prefer not to compete in 2020 because of health and safety concerns.

The ATP believes the system can adapt to further changes in the calendar if necessary.

The world rankings have been frozen since March 16, just days after the ATP Tour suspended play because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Britain's Andy Murray had suggested last month that the rankings system might need

adjustment to ensure fairness in the disrupted season.

Saying there was a danger the rankings could become "skewed," Murray suggested looking at a two-year rolling ranking "so the guys who did well last year and are not able to defend their points properly aren't punished."

Noting the jammed schedule envisioned for the tour's return—with the US Open to run from August 31 to September 13 followed by two elite Masters events and the

rescheduled French Open—Murray said that consistent winners would have trouble committing to so many events.

The principle of defending tournament points week by week will remain. Tournament points added in 2020 that count in a player's ranking will remain for 52 weeks or until the event in question is played again in 2021, whichever comes first.

In the case of tournaments that took place in 2019 and again in 2020 during the 22-month time frame, a player

can count his best result of those two, but not both from the same event.

Fans allowed at French Open stands

The French Open will allow fans to attend this year's postponed tournament.

The French Tennis Federation said Thursday up to 60% of the stands can be filled with fans when play starts in September at Roland Garros.

Tickets will go on sale on July 16 for the Sept. 27-Oct. 11 tournament.

The clay-court tournament had been scheduled to start on May 24 but was postponed to Sept. 20 because of the coronavirus pandemic. It then got pushed back another week.

The FFT has prepared a health and safety protocol to ensure the safety of fans. No more than four people can sit together in one group and there must also be one chair left empty between each mini-group of people in the same row.

Wearing masks is recommended but will not be obligatory when fans line up outside or sit in the stands, but must be worn when fans are moving around inside the grounds. (NBC)

MLB releases shortened schedule amid testing delays



NEW YORK
(AP)—Major League Baseball released its pandemic-shortened schedule Monday, featuring a tantalizing season opener between the New York Yankees and World Series champion Washington Nationals, even as some teams were still bogged down by coronavirus concerns.

By the time MLB revealed each team's 60-game slate Monday evening, the Nationals and Houston Astros—last year's pennant winners—had canceled workouts because of COVID-19 testing delays that one executive worried could endanger the season. The St. Louis Cardinals also scrubbed their practice for the same reason.

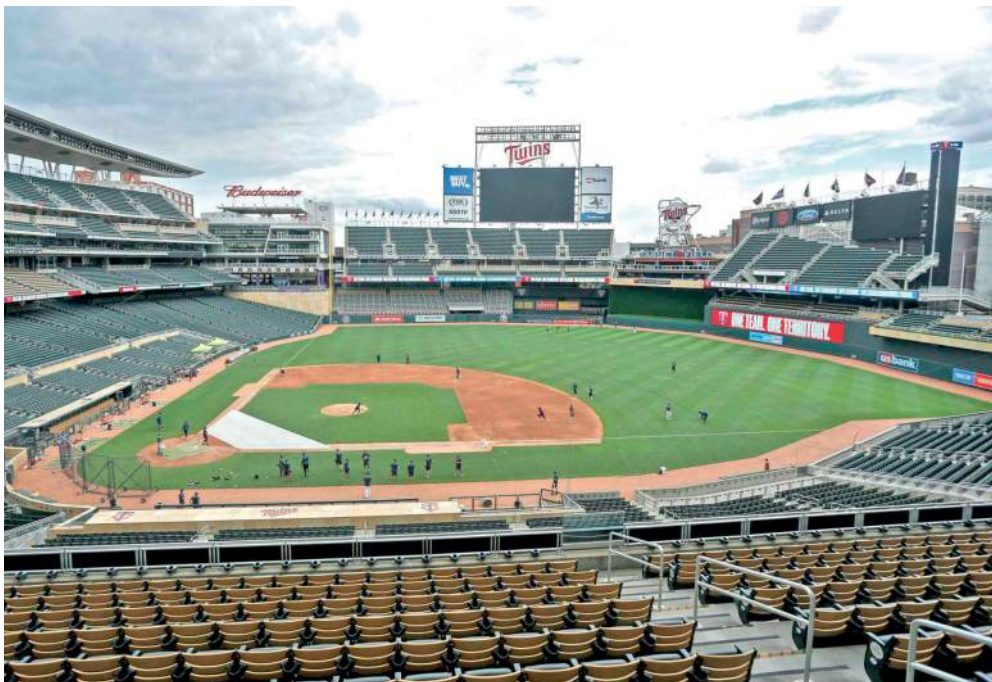
"We got camps being shut down and people going three

and four days without tests. You just don't know what's going on," Dodgers star Mookie Betts said. "We have to just figure out the right way to do it."

Nick Markakis became the second Atlanta Braves veteran to opt out of the season, swayed by a phone call with teammate Freddie Freeman, who has been stricken with COVID-19.

The Texas Rangers said All-Star slugger Joey Gallo tested positive and is asymptomatic. Arizona Diamondbacks outfielder Kole Calhoun also tested positive but feels good, manager Torey Lovullo said.

Philadelphia Phillies ace Aaron Nola reported to camp after waiting a few extra days because he was in contact with someone who tested positive



AP
The Minnesota Twins run drills on Target Field at a baseball camp, Monday, July 6, 2020, in Minneapolis.

had been completed and the Utah laboratory it's using had reported 98% of results, a majority of those a day after samples were collected. MLB said it addressed delays caused by the holiday weekend, doesn't expect them to continue and commended teams for canceling workouts.

But it's clear that players, managers and coaches have a lot more to worry about than just getting in shape and rounding out rosters.

"You get around the cage and you know you're not supposed to be touching the cage," Marlins manager Don Mattingly said. "You have this mask on all day, which is quite honestly cumbersome when it's hot and you're working. But it's something you get used to. When you're out there and guys are working, it looks exactly the same. You totally forget about it. You can get past it, for sure."

Mattingly said he tries to be as careful as possible before and after workouts: "You go to touch a door and you're like, 'If I can open that without actually having to grab it,' you're trying to do that. That's everywhere now. All the stuff we're having to do everywhere in the world, especially in the South Florida area where it has been rough lately, that's what we're trying to do here."

Testing hasn't been an issue everywhere.

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missed holding the CNMI Junior Championships that was earlier scheduled for April.

Despite failing to complete its calendar of events this season, Race said they have enough competitions to use as basis for selecting the members of the CNMI National Junior Team that will play in the North Pacific tournament. Players received ranking points from these local contests and usually the ones that topped the charts earn a slot on the squad.

For the POJC, players who will do well in the North Pacific event will get a spot on the North Pacific Team and challenge the representatives of

the East (Cook Islands, Tonga, Norfolk Islands, Tahiti, and Samoa) and West (Fiji, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, American Samoa, and Papua New Guinea) squads. The CNMI will be joined on the North team by players from Guam, Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

The schedules of the POJC (Oct. 14-23) and North Pacific qualifier (Sept. 5-9) are tentative as these will depend on the availability of flights for the traveling teams. In case the CNMI, Palau, and FSM could not make it to Guam, OTF is considering rescheduling the tournament anew or giving wildcard slots to players for the POJC.

"The OTF's plan is optimistic and I hope it works," Race said.

for the coronavirus.

"All my tests came back negative," Nola said.

Opening night on July 23 will feature the Yankees and their new ace, Gerrit Cole, visiting the Nationals. On the West Coast, the Los Angeles Dodgers and Betts, their big offseason acquisition, will host the rival San Francisco Giants.

Everybody else will be in action by the next day—in ballparks without fans. Teams will play only their division rivals and teams in the corresponding geographic division in the other league.

One quirk of the 60-game schedule is that division foes will play 10 times each, but not necessarily five times in each city. For instance, the Yankees and Red Sox will play seven games in the Bronx but just three in Boston.

The schedule was a bright spot on an otherwise shaky day in baseball's reboot following a shutdown of more than three months. The steady stream of players testing positive and opting out is leading to a growing unease that the full season might not be played.

"Sixty games looks pretty good on paper, but when you go through it day by day, it gets more difficult to kind of see that, the end of the finish line," Minnesota Twins catcher Mitch Garver said.

"There's a ton of players out there quoted saying this, but it almost feels like you're waiting on bad news, right? You're just waiting on somebody's camp to break out. You're waiting for travel restrictions to be shut down across the nation. You're waiting for a second wave, where things

become unplayable and sports take a backseat. We're all just kind of going day to day right now, making sure that we're ready for the given day and looking forward to that."

The Nationals and Astros were idled after not receiving test results from Friday. That came a day after Washington reliever Sean Doolittle criticized slow test results and a lack of some personal protective equipment.

"Without accurate and timely testing, it is simply not safe for us to continue with summer camp," Nationals general manager Mike Rizzo said. "Major League Baseball needs to work quickly to resolve issues with their process and their lab. Otherwise, summer camp and the 2020 season are at risk."

MLB said in a statement that 95% of its intake testing

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stayed on island, relying on online tutorials/videos to get ready for the Pacific Games.

"So for the most part, the team was nervous in the first day of the competition because for just about everyone, it was their first time traveling and representing the islands in any sport," said team captain Nate Guerrero.



SAMOA BADMINTON FEDERATION

In this 2019 file photo, the CNMI's Nate Guerrero, second left, enters the court, as he and Jordan Pangilinan played against host Samoa in the XVI Pacific Games in Apia.

Today, Guerrero and company and the Northern Marianas Badminton Association marked the anniversary of their debut in the Pacific Games.

"We felt nervous challenging the Samoa specifically because we were told that they had gone to China for 2-3 months' training. We were also nervous because we were in a different venue, different court, high ceiling,

wind drift etc. However, after the first couple of points, the team definitely adjusted well and started having fun in our games. All the nerves went away and it was just like playing at home," Guerrero said.

The CNMI National Badminton Team began to feel comfortable that it managed to steal the thunder from host Samoa after posting a 4-1 victory in the team event. Guerrero contributed one win in the upset, as he teamed up with Jordan Pangilinan in beating Charles Faalogoifo and Aukuso Sue in the men's doubles, 21-14, 21-18. Andreau Galvez and Janelle Pangilinan also recorded a sweep in the mixed doubles after outclassing Faalogoifo and Folole Ioane, 21-17, 21-17, while Nicole Malasarte gave the CNMI a pair of wins. Malasarte first downed Lizzie Caffarelli in the women's singles, 22-20, 25-23, and then partnered with Jordan in another mixed doubles play for a 20-22, 21-14, 21-14 triumph over Ioane and Peta Teo.

Besides topping Samoa, the



SAIPAN TRIBUNE
In this 2019 file photo, members of the CNMI National Badminton Team and officials of the Northern Marianas Badminton Association gather for a photo during Team CNMI's send-off ceremony at Kanoa Resort.

CNMI also won over Kiribati, 3-2, and finished the team event at fifth place—a significant accomplishment for a team that was ranked last going into the competition. In the singles and doubles contests, the Commonwealth players also picked up a couple of victories.

But more than the wins in last year's Pacific Games, Nate Guerrero said they valued the experience and exposure that the team and the CNMI badminton program got in Samoa. He said that for most of the countries competing in the Pacific Games, they are now aware that badminton is active

in the Commonwealth.

"I remember during training before our games, people were telling us they didn't even know badminton is played here," said Guerrero, who hopes to get another shot at representing the CNMI in international and regional competitions.



**Bubble awaits:
Teams set to
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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Chiefs, Mahomes
agree to 10-year,
\$503M extension**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Flashback: CNMI intimidated, but not defeated



By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

It's totally understandable for the CNMI Badminton National Team to get intimidated by host Samoa in the 2019 Pacific Games.

The Commonwealth squad was up against the home team that has a more established program, having competed in the quadrennial event for years. Add to the equation Samoa's off-island training camp for months and any opponent will definitely feel the



SAMOA PACIFIC GAMES PHOTO

The CNMI's Janelle Pangilinan gets ready near the net, while teammate Andrew Galvez stays back during their game against Samoa in the XVI Pacific Games in Apia.

nerves facing a well-prepared team. The CNMI bets, on the other hand, had limited training time in the aftermath

of Super Typhoon Yutu and

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SAMOA PACIFIC GAMES PHOTO

In this 2019 file photo, CNMI and Samoa badminton players pose for a photo before their match at the Multipurpose Gymnasium of the Faleata Sports Complex during the opening day of the XVI Pacific Games in Apia

STILL GETTING READY FOR COMPETITIONS

Tennis players will spare no effort

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Amid the uncertainties brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, long-time CNMI coach Jeff Race said they will try their best to get ready for competitions.

The Commonwealth's tennis players are slated to participate in the North Pacific Regional Championships in Guam in September and in the Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji in October, based on the revised schedule set by the Oceania Tennis Federations. Originally, the North Pacific event was to take place last month, while the POJC was to be held between July and August. OTF had to make changes due to the pandemic and is hoping there would be no more delays and this year's competitions could push through.

"Everyone's training schedule this year is completely thrown off, but our NMI junior team will do its best to be ready if things work out," Race said.

In the North Pacific tournament, which Race's squad has been dominating for more



than a decade, the CNMI will be sending players to Guam for the U12, U14, and U16 age group competitions. Players' selection to the national junior team will be based on their performance in Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association-sanctioned tournament this year.

The NMITA, due to the pandemic, has finished only three local competitions this year—TanHoldings Tennis Classic in November, Saipan International School STUCO Tournament in January, and the Coconut Tennis Classic in February. The group then had the opening week of the inaugural Bridge Capital Tennis Tournament before the second and final one was suspended Mid-march due to the crisis. Besides the Bridge Capital-sponsored event, NMITA also

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

In this 2019 file photo, the CNMI's Serin Chung returns to the Federated State of Micronesia's Nicole Paterson during their girls U14 singles game in the North Pacific Regional Championships at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.